AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

FRENCH EXPEDITION IN EGYPT;

WRITTEN BY

BUONAPARTE AND BERTHIER;

WITH

SIR WILLIAM SIDNEY SMITH'S LETTERS.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING

THE LIFE OF BUONAPARTE,

Down to November, 1799;

AND

ANECDOTES OF SIEYES.

IN WHICH IS GIVEN,

A SKETCH OF THE REVOLUTION,

BEGUN NOVEMBER 9.

THE SECOND EDITION.

LEEDS:

PRINTED BY EDWARD BAINES.

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FRENCH EXPEDITION IN EGYPT.

BUONAPARTE *Commander in Chief to the* DIRECTORY.

Camp before Acre, 21 Floreal, An. 7. (May 10, 1799.)

CITIZENS DIRECTORS,

I HAVE already tranſmitted to you the information, that Achmet Dgazzar, the Pacha of Acre, of Tripoli, and of Damas, had been appointed Pacha of Egypt; that he had raiſed a conſiderable army, and that his advanced guards had even marched to El-ariſch, threatening the reſt of Egypt with a ſpeedy invaſion; that the Turkiſh tranſport veſſels were collected in the port of Macri, for the purpoſe of tranſporting the army to Alexandria, when the ſeaſon ſhould admit; and that, for the movements which exiſted in Arabia, it was to be expected that the number of the people of Yambo, who had paſſed the Red Sea, would be greatly augmented in the courſe of the ſpring.

You have ſeen, by my laſt diſpatch, the rapidity with which the army croſſed the Deſart. You have learned, alſo, the capture of El-ariſch, of Gaza, and of Jaffa, with the diſcomfiture of the army of the enemy, who loſt all their magazines, a part of their camels, their ſtores, and camp-equipage.

There ſtill remained two months, before the ſeaſon of debarkation in Egypt. I therefore determined to purſue the remans of the hoſtile army, and to carry the war, during that interval, into the heart of Syria. We put ourſelves, in conſequence, on our march to *Acre*.

AFFAIR

AFFAIR OF KAKOUN.

On the 25th Ventoſe (March 15), at ten o'clock in the morning, we perceived the enemy on the other ſide of the village of Kakoun. They had taken a poſition on our flank : their left, being compoſed of the people of *Naplouſe* (the ancient *Samaritans)*, was ſupported by a ſmall hill, rather difficult of acceſs; their cavalry was drawn up on the right.

General Kleber advanced againſt the enemy's horſe; General Laſne attacked the left wing; and General Murat led the cavalry in the centre. General Laſne routed the enemy, killed a great number of men, and purſued them for two hours amongſt the mountains. General Kleber, after a ſlight diſcharge of muſketry, put to flight the enemy's right wing, and purſued them with impetuoſity: they took the road to Acre.

COMBAT OF KAISSA.

On the 27th, at eight o'clock in the evening, we took poſſeſſion of Kaiſſa. An Engliſh ſquadron was moored in the road. Four pieces of battering artillery, which I had cauſed to be embarked at Alexandria on board four tranſport veſſels, were taken off the caſt of Kaiſſa by the Engliſh.

Several veſſels, laden with bombs and proviſions, eſcaped, and caſt anchor at Kaiſſa. The Engliſh wiſhed to carry them off; but Lambert, the Commodore of the ſquadron, repulſed them, having killed or wounded an hundred of their men, taken thirty priſoners, and got poſſeſſion of the gun-veſſel, with a 36 pound carronade.

We had, as yet, nothing to place on our batteries before Acre but our field pieces. We battered in breach a tower which formed the moſt remote angle of the place. Our mine failing, the counterſcarp was not blown up. The Citizen Mailly, an adjoint to the ſtaff, was killed in advancing to reconnoitre the effect of the mine.

You will ſee, by the Journal of the Seige, that on the 6th, 10th, 18th, and 26th Germinal (March 26, 30, April 7, and 15), the eneny made ſeveral briſk ſorties, but were always repulſed with loſs by General Vial.

On the 12th (April 1), our miners blew up the counterſcarp; but the breach did not prove to be practicable.

On the 11th (March 31), General Murat took poſſeſſion of Saffet, the ancient Bethulia. The inhabitants ſhew the place where Judith killed Holophernes. On the ſame day General Junot entered into and poſſeſſed Nazareth.

BATTLE

BATTLE OF NAZARETH.

In the mean time, a numerous army was advancing from Damas. It paſſed the Jordan on the 17th (April 6.) The advanced guard was engaged, during the whole day, on the 19th, with General Junot, who, with 500 men of the 2d and 19th demi-brigades, put the enemy completely to the rout, took from them five ſtandards, and covered the field of battle with dead bodies. This was a diſtinguiſhed action, which did honour to the valour and coolneſs of the French.

ACTION AT CANA.

On the 20th, General Kleber left the camp before Acre. He marched to meet the enemy, and found them at the village of Cana. He formed his troops into two ſquare bodies. The armies, after exchaging a fire of cannon and muſquetry, which laſted the greater part of the day, returning at night into their ſeveral camps.

On the 22d (April 11), the enemy moved from the right of General Kleber, and advanced to the plain of Eſdecten, in order to form a junction with the Naplouſians. General Kleber puſhed forward between the river Jordan and the enemy, turned Mont-Tabor, and marched the whole of the night of the 26th (April 15), for the purpoſe of taking the enemy by ſurpriſe. He did not arrive in preſence of the enemy until after day-break. He then formed his diviſion into a ſquare battalion. A cloud of enemies ſurrounded him on every ſide. He had to encounter, through the whole day, repeated charges of cavalry; but they were all repulſed with the greateſt bravery.

The diviſion of General Bon left the camp before Acre at noon on the 25th (April 14); and on the 27th, at nine o'clock in the morning, he found himſelf on the rear of the enemy, who occupied an immenſe plain. We never before ſaw ſuch a number of cavalry, wheeling, charging and manœuvering in every direction. We did not make our appearance at all. Our cavalry carried the camp of the enemy, which was diſtant two leagues from the field of battle. We there took upwards of 400 camels and all the baggage, particularly that of the Mamelukes.

The Generals Vial and Rampon, at the head of their troops, formed into ſquare battalions, marched in different directions, in ſuch a manner as to form with the diviſion of Kleber the three angles of an equilateral tringle, extending about 2000 toiſes (4000 yards) on each ſide, of which the enemy formed the centre. Being arrived within cannon-ſhot, our troops all preſented themſelves at once, and terror ſeemed to pervade the ranks of the enemy. In a moment, this immenſe cloud of horſemen was ſcattered in diſorder, and reached the banks

of the Jordan. The infantry aſcended the neighbouring heights, and eſcaped under cover of the night.

On the following day I ordered the villages of Genine, Hourez, and Onalm, to be burned, for the purpoſe of puniſhing the Naplouſians. General Kleber was engaged in purſuing the enemy to the banks of the Jordan.

General Murat, during this time, had left the camp before Acre on the 23d (April 12), in order to raiſe the ſiege of Saffet, and to ſeize and bear off the magazines at Tabarich.

He defeated the enemy's column, and got poſſeſſion of all their baggage. Thus this army, the approach of which was announced with ſo much pomp, being, according to the reports of the natives, "As numerous as the ſtars of the heavens, or the ſands of the ſea," a ſtrange body of horſe and foot ſoldiers, of every colour, and of every country, repaſſed the Jordan with the utmoſt precipitation, after having left an immenſe quantity of dead upon the field of battle. If we may judge of their fears from the rapidity of their flight, the terror with which they were ſeized was beyond all example!

You will obſerve, in the Journal of the Siege of Acre, the efforts which were made, on the one ſide and on the other, to effect the paſſage of the moat, and to lodge ourſelves in the tower, where mines were met by counter-mines. Several 24-pounders having at length arrived, we proceeded ſeriouſly to batter the place. On the 7th, 11th and 13th Floreal (the 26th and 30th of April, and the 2d of May), the enemy made ſeveral ſallies, which were vigouroufly repulſed. On the 8th of May, the enemy received a reinforcement, which was brought by thirty Turkiſh ſhips of war. On that day they made four *forties*. They filled our trenches with their dead bodies, and we effected a lodgment, after a moſt bloody aſſault, within one of the moſt eſſential points of the place.

We were now maſters of the principal points of the rampart, The enemy had drawn a ſecond line of entrenchments. which had the caſtle of Dgezzar for their point of ſupport. It remained for us to make our way through the town: it would have been neceſſary to open trenches before every houſe, and to ſacrifice a great number of men, to which I was by no means inclined. The ſeaſon, in addition to this, was too far advanced. The object which I had propoſed to myſelf was accompliſhed; and now Egypt called me away.

I ordered a battery of 24-pounders to be erected, for the purpoſe of demoliſhing the palace of the Dgezzar, and the principal buildings of the town. I ordered alſo a thouſand bombs to be thrown in which, in a place ſo confined, muſt have

have done conſiderable miſchief. Having reduced Acre to a pile of rubbiſh, I ſhall repaſs the Deſart, and be ready to receive the European or the Turkiſh army, which in Thermidor or Meſſidor (June or July) may be inclined to land in Egypt. I ſhall ſend to you, from Cairo, an account of the victories which General Deſſaix has obtained in Upper Egypt: he has ſeveral times routed the forces which came againſt him from Arabia, and has nearly ſcattered the whole of Mamelukes.

In all the actions, a great number of brave men fell, at the head of whom I muſt place the Generals Caffarelli and Rombaud. A greater number ſtill has been wounded, amongſt whom are the Generals Bon and Laſne.

I have loſt, ſince my paſſage through the Deſart, five hundred men killed, and twice that number of wounded. The enemy has loſt more than fifteen thouſand men.

I demand of you the rank of General of Diviſion for General Laſne, and that of General of Brigade for Citizen Songis, Chief of the Brigade of Artillery. I have given promotion to other officers, as you will find by the liſt annexed to this letter. I ſhall take occaſion to inform you of the traits of courage by which a number of brave men have diſtinguiſhed themſelves.

I have been completely ſatisfied with the army. In a kind of warfare ſo new to Europeans, it has made evident that true courage and warlike talents can ſurmount every obſtacle, and are not to be diſheartened by any privations. The reſult will be, we truſt, an advantageous peace and an increaſe of glory and proſperity to the Republic.

(Signed) BUONAPARTE.

Letter from General BUONAPARTE *to the* EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY.

Head-Quarters at Jaffa, 8 Praireal, An. 7. (May 27, 1799.)

CITIZENS DIRECTORS.

I INFORMED you, by the courier whom I diſpatched on the 4th Floreal (April 23,) of the events ſo glorious for the Republic, which have taken place during the laſt three months in Syria, and of the reſolution which I have adopted of repaſſing the Deſart immediately, that I may arrive in Egypt before the month of Thermidor (June.)

The batteries of mortars, and of 24-pounders, were eſtabliſhed, as I announced to you, on the 23d Floreal (May 12), in order to deſtroy the palace of Dgezzar, and the principal buildings of Acre. They were played continually for ſixty-two hours, and fully completed the end which I propoſed, the place being inceſſantly on fire.

The garriſon, in a ſort of deſpair, made a general ſortie on the 27th Floreal (May 16.) The General of Brigade Verdier, was in the trenches, and the action laſted for three hours. The remainder of the troops arrived a week before from Conſtantinople, and who were exerciſed after the European manner, advanced againſt our trenches in cloſe columns. We withdrew our men from the poſts, which we had occupied on the ramparts; and by that means the batteries, on which were our field-pieces, could fire with grape-ſhot on the enemy, at the diſtance only of 80 toiſes. More than half of them fell, in conſequence, on the field of battle. Our troops then beat the charge in the trenches, and purſued the remainder, the bayonet in their reins, into the very place. We took on this occaſion, eighteen ſtand of colours.

The opportunity appeared to be favourable for carrying the place: but our ſpies, the deſerters, and the priſoners, all agreed in ſtating, that the plague was then making moſt terrible ravages in the town of Acre; that more than ſixty perſons died of it every day; and that the ſymptoms of it were dreadful, thoſe who were ſeized with it dying in thirty-ſix hours, and in convulſions ſimilar to the paroxyſms of madneſs.

Had we entered the town, it would have been impoſſible to prevent the ſoldiery from pillage; and thus, in the evening, they would have brought into the camp the ſeeds of that dreadful diſeaſe, more formidable than all the armies of the world.

The army left Acre on the 2d Prairial (May 21), and arrived in the evening at Tetoura. We encamped on the following night, on the ruins of Cæſarea, ſurrounded by fragments of columns of marble and of granite, which announce the former grandeur of the place.

We arrived at Jaffa on the 5th. During the laſt two days, the army has been filing off by detachments to Egypt. I ſhall remain for ſome days at Jaffa, in order to blow up the fortifications. I ſhall next proceed to puniſh ſome diſtricts where miſconduct has prevailed; and in a few days I ſhall repaſs the Deſart, after leaving a ſtrong garriſon at El-Ariſch. My next diſpatches ſhall be dated from Cairo.

(Signed) BUONAPARTE.

Expedition into Syria.

ALEXANDER BERTHIER, *General of Diviſion, Chief of the Staff of the Army, to the Miniſter at War.*

Head-Quarters, Alexandria, 11th Thermidor, (July 29.)

YOU will find annexed, Citizen Miniſter, a relation of the campaign in Syria, and an account of the memorable battle of Aboukir. The courage and conſtancy of our brave troops multiply our forces. We confidently believe that the Government does not loſe ſight of this army.

(Signed) ALEXANDER BERTHIER.

Head-Quarters, Alexandria, 11th Thermidor, (July 29.)

THE object of the military and political conduct of Buonaparte, from the moment of the army landing in Egypt, was to ſtrike a great blow againſt England, at the ſame time that he neglected nothing that could tend to convince the Porte of the deſire the French Republic entertained of continuing the friendſhip which exiſted between the two powers. On the capture of Malta, a great number of Turkiſh ſlaves were delivered, and ſent to Conſtantinople. Since our entering Egypt, the Turkiſh flag has waved along with that of France; the agents of the Porte were reſpected. A Turkiſh galley was in the port of Alexandria, as well as ſeveral merchant ſhips.—— Buonaparte aſſured the Captain of the attachment of the French. An order arrived from the Grand Seignior for the galley to proceed to Conſtantinople. It was at that time when the Turkiſh veſſels uſually leave Egypt. Buonaparte made a preſent to the Captain of the galley, and deſired him to take on board Citizen Beauchamps, with diſpatches, aſſuring the Porte of the deſire the French nation entertained of preſerving the exiſting relations of friendſhip. He ſignified to the Grand Signior the cauſes of complaint which he had againſt Achmet Dgezzar, Pacha of Acre, and ſtated that the puniſhment he intended to inflict upon that Pacha, if he continued to behave improperly, ought to give no uneaſineſs to the Ottoman Empire. Theſe were the grounds of complaint againſt Dgezzar:—

zar :—Ibrahim Bey, with about 1000 Mamelukes, had fled to Gaza after the affair of Salchieh ; Dgezzar had given him a cordial reception. Buonaparte had foreſeen every thing that could alarm the Porte. He had diſpatched an officer to Dgezzar by ſea. He carried a letter, aſſuring him that the French Republic was deſirous to preſerve friendſhip with the Grand Seignior, and to live at peace with him; but he inſiſted that Dgezzar ſhould diſmiſs Ibrahim Bey and his Mamelukes, and refuſe them aid. Achmet Dgezzar * returned no anſwer to this advance of Buonaparte. He arrogantly ſent back the French officer, and the French at Acre were put in irons. Dgezzar not only continued to receive the Mamelukes with welcome, but threatened the frontiers of Egypt by hoſtile preparations. The army received no intelligence from Europe. The ports of Egypt were blocked up ; but all the accounts received over land announced that the policy of England had availed itſelf of the affair of Aboukir to ſeduce the Porte, and prevail upon the Turkiſh Government to agree to an offenſive alliance againſt us. Ruſſia ſeemed equally deſirous to draw the Grand Seignior into its views, under the pretext of connecting their intereſts, in the view of attacking us. What an inconſiſtent union of politics! But every thing may be expected from a Government no leſs barbarous than ignorant, and overwhelmed with anarchy. Buonaparte concluded, that if the Porte declared for our enemies, a combined operation would take place againſt Egypt; an attack on the ſide of Syria, and an attack by ſea. He accordingly reſolved to march into Syria, chaſtiſe Dgezzar, deſtroy the preparations made for an expedition againſt Egypt, in caſe the Porte ſhould connect itſelf with our enemies; reſtore it to the nomination of a Pacha of Syria, if it remained our friend : return into Egypt, be at the combined operation by ſea, which, from the ſeaſon, probably would not take place before about the end of June. Buonaparte, after having driven Ibrahim Bey into Syria, had returned to Cairo. He had ſent General Deſſaix with his diviſion in purſuit of the remains of the army of Murad Bey, who continued in Upper Egypt. He organized the Government of Egypt by eſtabliſhing a Divan in every province. He has communicated to the people the happineſs

* Achmet, ſurnamed Dgezzar (which ſignifies butcher) the diſgrace of human nature, regarded as a monſter, even among the moſt barbarous people of the Eaſt, who has filled his territories with monuments of cruelty unheard of till his time. He has cauſed ſeveral of his wives to be ſlain on the moſt frivolous pretexts. He cauſes the men he wiſhes to chaſtiſe to be loaded with irons. He cuts off with his own hands the heads of his confidants. He cuts off noſe, ears, hands, and feet, from the moſt trivial ſuſpicions. He makes thoſe who diſpleaſe him rot alive to the very head. He encourages the robbery and peculation of his officers, in order to ſeize and ſtrangle them for wealth they have amaſſed.

pineſs of being their own governors. He cauſed Salchieh, Balbeis, Alexandria, and Damietta, branches of the Nile, and the mouth of the Roſetta at Laſba, to be fortified, he ſuppreſſed the ſedition at Cairo on the 30th Vendemiaire.

October 1, 1798; he puniſhed the guilty, he pardoned the reſt and re-eſtabliſhed order. He eſtabliſhed a ſyſtem of defence for the city of Cairo, in ſuch a manner as to ſecure it againſt the Arabs, while at the ſame time he rendered himſelf maſter of that populous town ſo as to command it with a battalion. The French parties were diſpoſed in ſuch a manner, that they were proof againſt any ſeditious movement. He adopted a ſyſtem of warfare againſt the hordes which have always depopulated Egypt. He eſtabliſhed a new diſtribution of impoſts. He introduced œconomy into the adminiſtrative part of the army. He eſtabliſhed a commercial company. He employed General Andreoſſi diſtinguiſhed equally for his military and ſcientific knowledge) to reduce the Lake Muzalee, the Peluſiac Mouths, and to take an accurate ſurvey of all theſe points, both in a ſcientific and military point of view*. General Andreoſſi having on the 2d of Brumaire, October 23, returned from this ſurvey, ſet out again with Citizen Berthollet, to ſurvey the Lake of Nitron. Buonaparte had eſtabliſhed an Inſtitute at Cairo. He formed there a library, cauſed a chemical laboratory to be conſtructed, aſſigned proper funds for the ſupport of theſe eſtabliſhments and ſent out men of ſcience to examine thoſe parts of the country where the poſition of the army aſſured them of ſafety. In ſhort, he made every preparation for his expedition in Syria; before his departure he wiſhed to make himſelf maſter of Suez, and to explore that point, of ſo much conſequence to the commerce of India, as

* On the 2d Vendemiaire, (Sept. 23, 1799), General Andreoſſi ſounded the roads of Damietta, of Bougaſie, and of Cape Bougan, as well as the Mouth of the Nile, in order to determine the paſſes of the Bogaze, and the form of the Bar. He left Damietta the 11th Vendemiaire (Oct. 2), at two o'clock in the morning, with 200 men, and 15 Djermes, conducted by the Reys of the Nile. Three of the Djermes were armed with a cannon. He paſſed the Borgenze at ſeven; and arrived at the mouth of Bibeh, where he made the ſame operations as at the Mouth of the Nile. On the 12th (3d) he penetrated ſeven leagues into the Lake. The Reys frighted by the appearance of about thirteen Djermes, laden with Arabs embarked at Malarie, conducted him towards Menzalee, and not to Malarie, where he wiſhed, to go. Not having obtained the advantage of the wind, he was attacked and purſued; but he compelled the enemy in ſpite of their numbers, to retire with loſs. He took the courſe of Damietta, and anchored before Merrie. At nine in the evening, in the night between the 14th and 15th, he was attacked with greater violence but not with more ſucceſs. On the 16th he directed his courſe towards Menzalee, and on the 17th, towards the Iſles of Matarie; on the 23d he anchored at the Iſle of Toura; on the 24th, at that of Termes; on the 25th, at the Mouth de Anna Fariege; and on the 28th he arrived at the ruins of Tinch, of Peruſe, and Faroona; on the 29th he proceeded towards the Canal of Moes, to which he penetrated. On the 30th he viſited Sau; the ſame day reached Salachick, obtained accurate information reſpecting the canal of that name, and then ſet off for Mezallie and Damietta, where he arrived on the 2d Brumaire (Oct. 23), after having completed his ſurveys, the ſoundings, the chart of the lake, by the conſtruction of which he had meaſured with the chain the circumference of the coaſt to an extent of more than 45,000 toiſes.

well

well as to reſolve the queſtion concerning the canal which was ſaid to have joined the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, reſpecting which, hiſtory has left only doubts.

While Buonaparte was making preparations for his Syrian expedition, he ſet out for Suez on the 2d Nivoſe, Sept. 22. He was preceded by General Bon, who, with 1500 men, and two pieces of cannon, had traverſed the Deſart, and taken poſſeſſion of Suez on the 17th Frimaire, Dec. 7. Buonaparte being at Suez, learned that Dgezzar has been appointed Pacha of Damaſcus and Egypt—that he was aſſembling troops——— and that a corps was already approaching the port of El-Ariſch ſituated at the diſtance of a day's journey from the entrance of the Deſart. He ſent orders to General Reignier, who was at Salchieh with the diviſion, to diſpatch General Lagrange with the 9th demi-brigade, and two pieces of artillery, to take poſſeſſion of Cathich, and to conſtruct there a fort.—The ſame day Buonaparte arrived at Cairo, where he employed himſelf with the utmoſt activity, in completing the preparations for his expedition into Syria.

The army for this expedition conſiſted of the diviſion of General Kleber, having under his command, Generals Verdier and Junot; the 2d demi-brigade of light infantry; two battalions of the 25th of the line, and two of the 75th.—The diviſion of General Reigner, having under his command General of Brigade Lagrange: the 9th demi-brigade of the line; and the 85th.—The diviſion of General Bon, having under his command the Generals of Brigade Rampon and Vial: the 1ſt battalion of the 4th light infantry; and 1ſt and 2d of the 18th of the line; and the 1ſt and 2d battalion of the 32d—General Lannes, having under his command General Veaux and Robine; the 1ſt battalion of the 22d light infantry; the 1ſt and 2d of the 13th of the line; and 1ſt and 2d of the 69th; 900 cavalry of different regiments, commanded by General Murat.—On the 5th the troops lay on their arms in the Deſart. On the 6th they arrived at Suez. On the 8th they paſſed the Red Sea, at a ford near Suez, which is practicable at low water, and proceeded to the fountains of Moſes, ſituaded at the diſtance of two leagues and a half from Suez, in Aſia.—Theſe fountains are formed by five ſprings, which ariſe from the top of ſmall mounts of ſand. The water is freſh, but a little brackiſh. There are found here the viſtiges of a ſmall modern aqueduct, which conveyed water to ciſterns on the ſea-ſhore, where it was preſerved for the uſe of ſhips. Theſe fountains are at the diſtance of three quarters of a league from the ſea. In the evening they entered Seuz, but it was high water; they then aſcended to the point of the Red Sea; but the guide loſt himſelf in the marſhes, from which he extri-

cated

cated himself with difficulty, being up to the middle in water. This guide must have been a descendant of the one who conducted Pharaoh. Seuz, by its magazines, seems to have been a considerable staple of commerce. None but barks can enter the port; but a sand-bank, which projects a league into the sea, which is dry at low water, and near which frigates can anchor, renders it possible to construct a battery, which would protest the anchorage, and defend the road.—The Arabs of Tor came to solicit the friendship of the French. Buonaparte encouraged commerce, by establishing a custom-house, where the duties are inferior to those paid at the time of the arrival of the French, and he secured it against the usual oppression of the Mamelukes and Pachas.—There is reason to believe that Suez will assume more splendour than ever it enjoyed before, considering the dispositions for its protection, and particularly for transporting goods from Suez to Cairo and Belbeis, by organized caravans. During our stay here, four vessels arrived from Djedda. On the 10th, Buonaparte set out from Suez, marching along the Red Sea to the north. At the distance of two leagues and a half from Suez, he found the remains of the entrance of the canal of Suez, which he followed for four leagues. The same night he rested at the fort of Adgeroud; on the 11th, at the distance of ten leagues in the Desart; and on the 12th, at Belbeis. On the 14th he advanced into the basis of Honareb, where he found vestiges of the canal of Suez, at its entrance into the canal of Suez, and his entrance into the cultivated and watered land of Egypt. He followed it for the space of several leagues, and ordered Citizen Peyre, engineer, to repair to Suez, and to set out with a sufficient escort, to take a geometrical level of the whole course of the canal—an operation which will resolve the problem of the existence of one of the greatest and most useful works in the world. General Dommartin, commandant of artillery. General Caffarelli, commandant of engineers. The park was composed of four 12-pounders, three 8-pounders, five howitzers, and three 5-inch mortars. There we attached besides, to each of the four divisions, two 8-pounders, two 6-inch howitzers, and two 3-pounders. To the guides on horseback, four 8-pounders, and two 6-inch howitzers. To the cavalry four 4-pounders.

Effective force of the Army destined for the Expedition into Syria.

	Men
Divison of Kleber - -	2,349
Division of Bon - -	2,449
Division of Lannes - -	2,904
Division of Regnier - - -	2,160

Cavalry - - -	800
Engineers - - -	340
Artillery - - - -	1,835
Guides for the infantry and cavalry -	400
Dromadaries - - -	88
	12,943

The 19th demi-brigade, the 3d battalion of the demi-brigade belonging to the Syrian Expedition, the Nautic legion, the depots of the cavalry corps, the Malteſe legion, have again been ſent to garriſon Alexandria, Damietta, and Cairo; and, in order to form moveable columns, diſtined to keep in obedience the provinces of Lower Egypt, and to protect them againſt the Arabs, General Diſſaix, as has been reported, occupied, with his diviſion, Lower Egypt. The command of the province of Cairo was confided to General Dugua. The others are intruſted to the hands of Generals Beillard, Lanuſſe, Zayonſchek, Fugieres, Leclerc, and of the Adjutant-General Almeyrus. Citizen Pouſſieglue, Chief Adminiſtrator of Finance, remains at Cairo. The Paymaſter-General of the Army, Eſteve, a young man of diſtinction, is attached to the Expedition. The command of Alexandria was a very important truſt, and was conferred upon Marmont, General of Brigade. Buonaparte gave orders to the Adjutant Almeyrus, to whom he confided the command of Damietta, to carry on with all poſſible activity the fortifications that were to defend it. He ordered him to embark proviſions and ammunition for the army of Syria, by taking advantage of the navigation of the Lake Menzale, and of the port of Tinch, from whence they ſhould be conveyed to the magazines eſtabliſhed at Cathich, at a diſtance of about five day's march. He ordered artillery ſiege pieces to be embarked from Alexandria. Boldneſs and pertinacity often lead to victory. Buonaparte thought he ſhould bid defiance to the Engliſh cruizers. The ſhips with the artillery ſailed. There were ſome frigates at Alexandria: Buonaparte ordered Rear-Admiral Perree to ſet ſail during the night with the Juno, Courageuſe, and the Alceſte, to cruize off Jaffa, and to keep up a communication with the army. He calculated that they ſhould arrive at their deſtination within a given time. It was neceſſary to riſk this expedient for conveying ſome ſiege pieces, in the ſuppoſition that the fortreſs of Acre ſhould oppoſe an obſtinate reſiſtance. Beſides, no accurate information had been obtained of the ſtrength of that fortreſs. The obſtacles to be encountered in the paſſage of the Deſart did not admit of artillery being tranſported by land.—Prompt and extraordinary meaſures were taken at Cairo to collect together the neceſſary number of camels and mules for the carrying of every thing requiſite for the paſſage of an army through the Deſart; artillery, proviſions, water, &c.

The

The gun-boats had been conſtructed at Bonlac, and brought to Damietta, to take poſſeſſion of the navigation of the Lake Menzale. General Kleber received orders to embark with his diviſion for the port of Tinch, by way of the Lake of Menzale, and from thence to Cathich, where he was to arrive on the 16th Pluvioſe, the 4th of February. General Regnier, who ſet out with the Staff from Belbeis, on the 4th Pluvioſe, on his way to Salehich, had again left that place on the 14th, in order to be at Cathich on the 16th of the ſame month, where he formed a junction with his advanced guard. He left Cathich on the 18th, and arrived before El-Arich the 21ſt Plovioſe. Near 2000 of the troops of the Pacha of Acre occupied El-Arich and the fortreſs. On the 8th of February, General Lagrange; with two battalions of the 15th, one of the 75th, and two pieces of cannon, formed the advanced guard of General Regnier. On the 8th of February, when approaching the Fountains of Meſſondiat, he perceived a party of Mamelukes, who were diſperſed by his rangers. He arrived in the evening at a grove of palm-trees, in the neighbourhood of the ſea, and before El-Ariſch. On the 21ſt, he advanced with his column on the left of the village of El-Ariſch, while General Regnier proceeded on the right. Pluvioſe 21ſt, General Lagrange advanced with rapidity over the ſand-hills, which command El-Ariſch, where he took a poſition, and planted his artillery. He cauſed the charge to be beat, when the advanced guard threw themſelves with rapidity from the right and left on the village, which he attacked in front. The enemy occupied the village, which ſtands in the form of an amphitheatre; it conſiſts of ſtone houſes, with battlements on the top, and is protected by a front. Notwithſtanding the moſt obſtinate reſiſtance, and a violent fire, the village was carried by the bayonet. The enemy retired into the fort, but with ſuch precipitation, that in ſhutting the gates they excluded about 200 men, who were killed or taken priſoners. General Regnier the ſame evening blockaded the fort of El-Ariſch. At this time he obſerved a reinforcement of cavalry and infantry of the enemy eſcorting a convoy with proviſions for El-Ariſch, and this reinforcement continually increaſed till the 25th, when the enemy, emboldened by their ſuperiority in cavalry, encamped within half a league of El-Ariſch, on a plain covered by a very ſteep ravine, where they conſidered themſelves as ſafe from an attack.

On the 25th Pluvioſe, General Regnier acquainted General Kleber with his project of ſurpriſing the enemy in their camp at El-Ariſch, during the night, which project was approved by General Kleber. During the night betwixt the 26th and 27th, a part of Regnier's diviſion turned the ravine which co-

vered the camp of the Mamelukes, killed or made priſoners ſuch as could not eſcape by flight, and took a great number of horſes and camels, together with a large quantity of proviſions, ammunition, &c. Two Beys, and ſome Califfs were killed on the field. The Commander in Chief had left Cairo on the 22d Pluvioſe, with his Staff, in order to paſs that night at Balbeis, the next at Cored, the 26th at Cathich, and the 27th at Bir El-Apt. On the 28th he was to ſleep at Meſſondiat, and the 29th at El-Ariſch, where at the ſame time were to unite the park of artillery, the diviſion of General Bon, and that of General Lannes. * General Regnier had ordered a few cannon ſhot to be fired againſt the fortreſs, and had already begun to advance his line of attack; but not being furniſhed with a ſufficient quantity of ammunition to batter it in breach, he ſummoned the commander of the fort, and cloſed in the blockade; he had alſo advanced a mine under one of the towers, which however was countermined by the enemy. On the 30th, Buonaparte ordered one of the towers of the caſtle to be cannonaded; the breach being opened, he ſummoned the place to ſurrender. The garriſon was compoſed of Arnautes and Maugrabins, all rude barbarians, without leaders, unacquainted with any of the principles of war acknowledged by civilized nations. Their anſwer was, that they were willing to come out with their arms and baggage, as it was their wiſh to go to Acre. Buonaparte was anxious to ſpare the effuſion of his ſoldiers' blood; he delayed the aſſault. At length on the 2d Ventoſe, the garriſon, conſiſting of 1600 men, ſurrendered, on condition of being permitted to retire to Baydal, by the Deſart. Some of the Maugrabins entered into the French ſervice. We found in the fortreſs about 250 horſes, two diſmounted pieces of artillery, and ſeveral days proviſions. On the 3d, the ſtandards and the Mamelukes priſoners, were ſent off to Cairo. General Kleber had ſet out with his diviſion, and the cavalry, from El-Ariſch. On the 4th he was to advance towards Kan Jouneſſe. The head-quarters removed from El-Ariſch on the 5th, and arrived on the heights of Kan Jouneſſe without receiving any intelligence of General Kleber's diviſion. The Commander in Chief ſent forward ſome of his eſcort to a village where the French had not as yet been. The Mamelukes who were in it took to flight, and withdrew to the camp of Abdalla Pacha, whom we deſcried about a league be-

* On the 21ſt Pluvioſe, Buonaparte received an expreſs from Alexandria, informing him that on the 15th, the Engliſh cruizers, reinforced by ſome ſhips, were bombarding the fort and the city. He conceived that this manœuvre of bombarding Alexandria, could only have for its object to prevent his expedition into Syria, the preparations for which had already alarmed both the Engliſh and the Pacha of Acre. He therefore purſued his march on the 22d.---The Engliſh, ſeeing themſelves foiled in their attempt, followed the army, and preſented themſelves before Acre, after having fired a number of bomb-ſhells, which had no other effect than to ſink two tranſport ſhips.

yond

yond Kan Jouneſſe, on the roads to Gaza. Buonaparte, having only a picket for his eſcort, and convinced that Kleber's diviſion muſt have gone aſtray, fell back upon Santon, three leagues behind Kan Jouneſſe, in the Deſart. On our arrival at Santon, we there found the advanced guard of our cavalry. The guides had led General Kleber aſtray in the Deſart: but he ſtopped ſome Arabs, who put him into his road, for he had been a whole day out of it. He arrived on the 6th, at eight o'clock in the morning, after a moſt fatiguing march of 48 hours, during which he was without water. The diviſion of Bon and Lannes, who had followed his ſteps, were alſo led aſtray for ſome time. The re-union of the three diviſions, and the cavalry, which, according to orders, was to have moved on ſucceſſively, being all arrived at Santon, ſoon exhauſted the wells. We dug very laborioufly to procure water, which we obtained, but in very ſmall quantities, inſufficient for our wants.

On the 6th Ventoſe, the head quarters of the army marched to Kan Jouneſſe, the firſt village of Paleſtine, when you get out of the Deſart. Gen. Regnier's diviſion had orders to remain at El-Ariſch till diſpoſitions were made for putting the fortreſs in a ſtate of defence, and the park of artillery in motion. About a league and a half diſtance from Kan Jouneſſe, we diſcovered an a road a few columns of granate, and ſome fragments of marble diſperſed here and there, which betokened the remains of an ancient monument, a well, bearing the name of which, is to be found in that neighbourhood. Abdalla Pacha, and the Mamelukes who had encamped in the front of Kan Jouneſſe, informed of the approach of our army, raiſed their camp during the night of the 6th, and fell back upon Gaza.

On the 7th, the army marched againſt Gaza; at the diſtance of two leagues from the fortreſs, we perceived upon the heights a body of cavalry of the enemy. Buonaparte formed his three diviſions each into a ſquare body; that of Kleber was ordered to march againſt Gaza; General Bon's diviſion moved againſt the centre; that of General Lannes was to occupy the heights on our right, in order to turn thoſe that were poſſeſſed by the enemy's cavalry. The enemy made ſeveral movements, and ſeemed undecided. They at length put themſelves in motion to advance toward us; they, however, made immediately a retrogade movement; we marched againſt them with fixed bayonets, upon which they withdrew. Kleber's diviſion cut off and killed ſeveral of their rifiemen; our cavalry alſo manœuvred to entice an attack, but they could not ſucceed in engaging the hoſtile cavalry, who diſappeared altogether in the evening. The head-quarters were eſtabliſhed at Gaza, and the army took its poſition upon the heights.

Gaza has a circular fort, in good condition, forming in the interior

interior a pentagon of about 40 toiſes (240 feet) in diameter. It contained 15,000lbs. of powder, ſeveral cannon, a quantity of carcaſſes, cartridges, with a large ſtore of warlike proviſions. In the town were alſo found about 100,000 rations of biſcuit, with rice, tobacco, tents, and a large quantity of barley. The inhabitants had ſent Commiſſioners to meet Buonaparte, and were therefore treated as friends.

8, & 9.—The Commander in Chief paſſed thoſe days in organizing the place and the country, both in a civil and military point of view. A Divan was formed of the principal Turks inhabiting the town. The proviſions and ammunition found here, were more acceptable, as the ſupplies which were to have been ſent after us from Cathick were greatly delayed, from the difficulty of conveyance acroſs the Deſart.

10.—The main body of the army began to advance toward Jaffa, where the enemy were collecting their forces, for the purpoſe of making a ſtand. We encamped on the 11th at Eſdodes, and on the 12th at Ramlay, a town inhabited for the greater part by Chriſtians. We there found ſome magazines of biſcuit, which the enemy had not time to remove. We alſo found ſome at the village of Ledda. On the 13th, the diviſion under General Kleber, which formed the advanced guard, marched to Jaffa. The enemy, on his arrival, entered the body of the place, and cannonaded his diviſion, whilſt it took its poſition. Buonaparte, and the other bodies of the army, arriving in ſucceſſion, Kleber's diviſion and the cavalry were ordered to advance to the banks of Lahoya, about two leagues on the way to Acre, for the purpoſe of covering the ſiege of Jaffa, which is encloſed by a wall, but without any foſſe, and flanked by towers provided with cannon. Towards the ſea are two forts, which defend the harbour and the road. The place appeared well provided with means of defence.

15.—In the preceding night the trenches were opened, and exertions were uſed to open a battery in breach againſt the moſt commanding of the ſquare towers, and two counter batteries. Another battery was alſo erected to the north of the place, to make a diverſion by a falſe attack.

16.—This, as well as the preceding day, was employed in completing our works. The enemy attempted two ſallies, but were driven back with conſiderable loſs. The batteries then opened their fire, and at four o'clock in the evening, a breach was made, which appeared to be practicable. An aſſault was ordered; the light carbineers, and the 22d brigade were the firſt to advance. They had with them the workmen of the engineers, and of the artillery: the chief of the brigade was killed. Our brave fellows flew to the breach, and aſcended it in ſpite of a flanking fire, which we could not by any means ſubdue.

due. We made a lodgment in the ſquare tower, and hoiſted our flag. The enemy made every effort to attack and repulſe our troops; but theſe being ſupported by the diviſion of General Lanus, and by our artillery, which fired grape-ſhot into the town, following the progreſs made by our troops, advanced from roof to roof, and from ſtreet to ſtreet, until they took and hoiſted our flag on the fort. They at length reached the harbour, and terror ſeized on the garriſon, the greater part of which was put to the ſword. About 300 Egyptians, who eſcaped from the aſſault, were ſent to Egypt, and reſtored to their families. We loſt about thirty men killed in the breach and in the town, and had alſo ſeveral wounded.

The garriſon was compoſed of about 1,200 Turkiſh gunners, about 2,500 Maugrabins, or Arnauts, and ſome Egyptians. We found in the place ten pieces of cannon, and 16lb. howitzers for the field equipage, ſent by the Grand Seignior to the Dgezzar Pacha, and twenty bad braſs and iron pieces, which were plared on the ramparts. 17th.—Buonaparte being maſter of all the forts, ordered that the inhabitants ſhould be ſpared, and General Robin took the command of the place. He ſucceeded in extinguiſhing the diſorders which naturally follow an aſſault. The inhabitants were protected, and immediately returned to their own habitations. In the harbour we found fifteen ſmall trading veſſels. Buonaparte formed a Divan, conſiſting of the moſt diſtinguiſhed Turks in the place; he took meaſures for reſtoring it to a ſtate of defence, and alſo eſtabliſhed an hoſpital. Jaffa was to the army a place of the higheſt importance, as it became the depot of every thing that was to be ſent to us from Alexandria and Damietta.

25.—Kleber's diviſion was encamped at Miſki, where it had covered the ſiege of Jaffa. On the 24th, the diviſions of Bon and Laſne departed from Jaffa, and encamped at Miſki. The army then marched onward to Zeta. At noon the advanced guard diſcovered a body of the enemy's cavalry. Abdallah Pacha, with about 1000 horſe, was on the heights of Korſum, on his left was a body of 50,000 Naplouſians, who occupied the mountains. The diviſions of Kleber and Bon, with our horſe, advanced againſt the enemy's cavalry: but the latter, by ſeveral manœuvres, avoided an engagement. The diviſion of Laſne was ordered to march forward to the right, in order to cut off Abdallah Pacha from the Naplouſians, and to diſconcert his plan, by forcing him to retreat either to Acre or to Damas. Borne away by its ardour, this diviſion advanced amongſt the mountains, and attacked the Naplouſians, who took to flight, and were purſued too far by our light infantry. It fell back, after repeated orders; but the Naplouſians, looking on this movement as a retreat, purſued our infantry, firing on them from the rocks, by which means they wounded about thirty

thirty men, and killed Citizen Barthelemy, chief of the 69th demi-brigade. They were checked, however, at the opening into the mountain. This affair coſt the Naplouſians more than 200 men killed and wounded. Our army was under arms all night, near the tower of Zetta, about one league from Korſum ——We encamped on the 26th at Sabarieu, near the opening of the defiles of Mount Carmel, on the plain of Acre. General Kleber marched upon Caiffa, which the enemy abandoned on our approach. We there found 20,000 rations of buiſcuit, and as many of rice.

A ſquadron, conſiſting of two Engliſh ſhips of the line, a frigate, and two advice boats, were moored in the road of Caiffa. The port of Caiffa would have been of great uſe to us, if the fort had been armed, but the enemy had removed with his troops, all the artillery, and ammunition. We took poſſeſſion of the magazines, and left a garriſon in the caſtle.

Caiffa is encloſed by ſtrong walls, flanked with towers. A caſtle defends the port and the road. A tower, with embraſures, commands the town, at the diſtance of 150 toiſes, but is itſelf commanded by the heights of Mount Carmel. The place is not tenable againſt artillery.

SEIGE OF ACRE.

The army began its march againſt Acre on the 26th Ventoſe; the army arrived very late on the mouth of the little river of Acre, which is at the diſtance of about 1500 fathoms from the fortreſs. The night was employed in conſtructing a bridge; the 27th, at break of day, the whole army paſſed over. On the 28th the Commander in Chief aſcended an eminence, that commands St. Jean d'Acre at the diſtance of 1000 fathom; he ordered to attack the enemy, who were drawn up in the garden that environed the town, and compelled them to retire within the fortreſs. The army was encamped upon an inſulated eminence, that runs near to, and parallel with the ſea, and which extends as far as Cape Blanc, about a league and a half to the northward, commanding to the eaſt a plain, about a league and three quarters in length, terminated by the mountains that lie between Acre and the Jordan. On the 29th Generals Dommartin and Caffareli went out to reconnoitre the fortreſs. It was reſolved to attack the front of the angle at the eaſtward of the town. The chief of Brigade, Samſon, was wounded in the hand by a ball, which paſſed through it. No intelligence had yet arrived of the ſiege artillery that was ſent by ſea. The works of the breaching batteries, and of the counter batteries, were commenced. The commander of the Engliſh ſquadron was well informed that here was a great quantity of proviſions at Caiffa; he reſolved upon ſeizing them, and alſo upon carrying off ſome

ſmall

ſmall veſſels that had arrived from Jaffa with proviſions for us, Buonaparte had proviſionally entruſted the command of Caffa to the Chief of Squadron, Lambert, a diſtinguiſhed officer. We heard a heavy cannonade on the 2d Germinial from the camp at Acre, on the ſide of Caiffa. We were ſoon informed that ſeveral Engliſh ſloops of war, armed with carronades of 32, had arrived, attacked Caiffa, and had advanced againſt our ſhips, with a deſign to take poſſeſſion of them; that the Chief of Squadron, Lambert, had given orders to permit the Engliſh to approach, without diſplaying any movement or meaſure of defence; that he had alſo concealed an howitzer; that he placed in ambuſcade about ſixty men, who compoſed his garriſon; that at the moment the enemy were on the point of landing, he took occaſion to fall upon them, attacked them with a ſharp fire of muſquetry; that he had boarded and taken one of the ſloops, and an artillery piece of 32, and made priſoners ſeventeen Engliſh; that he had diſcharged his howitzer againſt the other ſloops, which took to flight, having almoſt the whole of their crews killed or wounded, amongſt whom were two officers.

The Engliſh Commodore relinquiſhed his deſigns againſt Caiffa. He came and caſt anchor before Acre. On the 5th the works of the ſiege were puſhed on with activity. The enemy made a ſortie, on the 6th in which they were repulſed with loſs. On the 8th, the breaching and the counter batteries were finiſhed. About three in the evening a breach was made; a mine was branched out to blow up the counterſcarp. The mine exploded, and we imagined the effect complete. The impatience of the troops determined upon the aſſault. The grenadiers ſprung forward; but they ſoon found themſelves arreſted in their progreſs by a trench of 15 feet, well provided with a counterſcarp. This obſtacle did not damp their ardour. They proceeded to place their ladders; the grenadiers deſcended, but the breach was ſtill from eight to ten feet above the ruins: ſome ladders were placed to it. Mailly, the Aſſiſtant Adjutant-General, aſcended the firſt; he climbed the breach, and was killed. The fire from the fortreſs was tremendous; the counterſcarp checked the progreſs, and compelled the grenadiers to retreat, who advanced the firſt; the Adjutants General Leſcalles and Laugnier were killed. An emotion of fear had ſeized the enemy——they fled towards the harbour, but were ſoon brought back to the breach, where the braveſt of Dgezzar's troops were engaged. The height of the breach above the ruins prevented our grenadiers from aſcending it, which afforded the enemy ſufficient time to return to the top of the tower, from whence they threw down ſtones, diſcharged grenadoes, and poured down com-

 buſtible

buſtible materials. The diviſion of grenadiers, nor being able to paſs through it, were obliged to take ſhelter under our trenches. Six men were killed, and twenty wounded. The eagerneſs to begin the aſſault, made our men take for certain that the mine had blown up the counterſcarp, while it only pierced a tunnel into the glacis.

On the 9th, a Turkiſh frigate moored in the road of Caiffa. The Turkiſh veſſel being ignorant of our arrival, ſent her boat aſhore, with her Lieutenant and 20 men. On their landing the French ſurrounded, made them priſoners, and took poſſeſſion of their boat. On the 10th, the enemy made a ſally, but was repulſed with a conſiderable loſs. Deſtroyes, the Chief of a brigade of artillery, was killed. Dgezzar had ſent his emiſſaries to Aleppo, to Damas, to Said, and to the Naplouſians, with a conſiderable ſum of money, for the purpoſe of raiſing in a maſs all the Muſſulmen, who were capable of carrying arms. He ſaid in his firmans, that they were to fight with the infidels; that we were only a handful of men, unprovided with artillery; and that as he was ſuſtained by a powerful Engliſh force, they had only to appear in order to exterminate us. We learned through the Chriſtians, that a body of troops was accordingly formed at Damas, and that a large ſupply of proviſions was collected in the fortreſs of Tabarie, occupied by the Maugrebins. Dgezzar expected every moment to ſee this force from Damas make its appearance, and this it was which encouraged him to make ſuch frequent ſorties.

On the 12th, our beſieging artillery was not arrived; we learned, on the contrary, that three veſſels of our fleet, which ſailed from Damietta, laden with ammunition and proviſions had miſſed their way, and fallen in, during a fog, with the Engliſh, by whom they were captured. The reſt arrived ſafely at Jaffa. As ſome of our beſieging artillery was on board the captured veſſels, Buonaparte ſent orders to Rear-Admiral Perree, and to Damietta, to replace them. The ſame day we again battered in breach, and blew up a ſmall part of the counterſcarp. Buonaparte gave orders that we ſhould try to make a lodgment in the tower of the breach but in this we were unſucceſsful.

General Vial ſet out at break of day on the 14th Germinal at the head of 4000 men, in order to take poſſeſſion of Sous, the ancient Tyre. He reached it after a march of eleven hours. The road was impracticable for artillery on the way to Cape Blanc; on the top of a mountain appear the remains of a caſtle, built by Mutualis an hundred years ago, and ſince deſtroyed by the Dgezzar. After having paſſed Cape Blanc,

we diſcovered, on entering on a plain, the veſtiges of an ancient fortreſs, and the ruins of two temples. General Vial tranquillized the alarms of the inhabitants of Sous, who fled at his approach. They returned to the town; Turks and Chriſtians met with equal protection; he placed a garriſon in the town of Mutualis. The population of Sous amounts to 1500 ſouls. The town is incloſed with a wall without any entrenchments. The walls are in ſome meaſure raiſed upon the ſtocks of antique pillars. General Vial returned to the camp under Acre with his detachment on the 16th Germinial. The Engliſh Commodore obſerved the troops of the Dgezzar to have been repulſed in a variety of ſorties. He concerted a freſh ſortie, in concert with the French emigrant Phelippeaux. On the 18th, the enemy, at break of day, came on with an attack againſt our left and our centre; each column was headed by naval troops belonging to Engliſh ſhips, and their colours were ſeen waving in conjuction with thoſe of Dgezzar, and the batteries were all manned by Engliſh troops. The enemy made an attempt to ſurpriſe our advanced poſts, but their deſign was ſeen through: we received them with a briſk fire from our parallels, and all that attempted to appear againſt us were either killed or wounded. The enemy ultimately retired without gaining an inch towards deſtroying our works. The central column acted with more obſtinacy—their object was to penetrate to the entrance of our mine; they were commanded by Captain Thomas Oldfield;* he advanced boldly towards the entrance of the mine, at the head of ſome of his intrepid countrymen; they attacked like heroes, and were received by heroes; death only checked their bold career; the approaches of our parallels remained covered with the dead bodies of Engliſh and of Turks. The corpſe of Captain Thomas Oldfield was carried off by our grenadiers; they brought him to our head quarters; he was at the point of death, and ſoon after his arrival was no more.

Some deſerters who eſcaped from ſhore informed us, that Engliſh gunners were actually ſerving in the batteries, and that the Engliſh Commodore had with him a French officer of artillery, named Phelippeaux. The deſerters told us, that the French who were either killed or wounded in the differnt aſſaults, had been, according to the atrocious and barbarous cuſtom of the Eaſt, mutilated by the Turks, who cut off their heads, in order to convert them into trophies. Some days after the aſſault of the 8th, a quantity of bags were perceived on ſhore: our ſoldiers opened them, and, Oh, horror!

* Thomas Oldfield (an Engliſhman) was a diſtinguiſhed officer; it was he who firſt entered the place, upon the taking of the Cape of Good Hope.

they found the bodies of our unfortunate men, tied in pairs, incloſed in the ſacks, and thrown into the ſea by order of the Dgezzar, and the Engliſh Flag floated on the ramparts alongſide of that of the Dgezzar, at the moment when 400 men had been thus cowardly aſſaſſinated.

The Commandant of the Caſtle of Saffet informed us that ſome troops had paſſed the Bridge of Jacob, on the Jordan. The advanced poſts of Nazareth alſo intimated that another column had paſſed the Bridge of Gizel-Micanie, and had advanced to Tabarie: that the Arabs had ſhewn themſelves in the openings of the mountains of Naplouſe, and that Tabaire and Genin had received conſiderable ſupplies of proviſions. The General of brigade, Junot, had been ſent to Nazareth to obſerve the enemy: he learned that they had already ſhewn themſelves in the village of Loubi.

On the 19th Germinial, General Junot having been informed that the enemy was aſſembling in conſiderable numbers on the heights of Loubi, four leagues from Nazareth, in the direction of Tabarie, he began his march at the head of the 2d light infantry, and three companies of grenadiers of the 19th, forming about 300 men, together with a detachment of 160 horſe, belonging to different corps; with theſe he proceeded to reconnoitre the enemy. He deſcried them at a ſmall diſtance from Kafcana, on the top of the heights of Loubi; he purſued his march, turned the mountain, and found himſelf ſurrounded by 4,000 horſemen, the moſt intrepid of whom poured down upon his corps; he had only time to attend upon circumſtances, and he fought with a courage and coolneſs that did equal honour to the Commander and the ſoldiers: the enemy left five ſtand of colours among the troops. While the battle raged, General Junot gradually gained the heights, as far as Nazareth; he was followed as far as Kaftcana, about two leagues from the field of battle. The enemy loſt, together with their five ſtandards, about 5 or 600 men; we had 60 men killed or wounded. The Chief of Brigade, Duvivier, diſtinguiſhed himſelf as uſual. General Kleber, in conſequence of the news of the battle of Loubi, received orders to ſet out from the camp at Acre with the remainder of the advanced guard, in order to join General Junot, at Nazareth. Scarcely had he reached the heights of Sed Jarra, a quarter of a league from the heights of Loubi, when the enemy, pouring down from theſe heights, debouched into the plain, ſurrounded General Kleber with nearly 4,000 horſe, and 5 or 600 foot, and prepared to charge him. This the General anticipated, by attacking at the ſame time the cavalry and the village of Sed Jarra, which he carried. The enemy retreated. The troops then returned to the poſition of Saffore and of Nazareth. Sed Jarra is ſituated at the diſtance of a

league

league and a half from Cana. After the affair of Sed Jurra, the enemy fell back, partly on Tabarie, partly on the bridge of Giz-el-Makanie, and partly upon Baizard. This latter place, on the borders of the Jordan, ſoon became their principal rallying point, from whence, on the 25th, the whole of the hoſtile army moved into the plain, now called Houli, but formerly Eſdrelon. There they formed a junction with the Samaritans, or Naplouſians. General Kleber informed General Buonaparte that the enemy's forces amounted to 15 or 18,000 men, and that they were expected to be from 40 to 50,000 ſtrong by the inhabitants of the country. He likewiſe informed him that he was on his march to attack them. Buonaparte learned at the ſame time from the Commandant of Saffet, that on the 24th the enemy advanced, and laid waſte its neighbourhood; that he himſelf retired into the fortreſs which the enemy afterwards attacked; that they attempted to ſcale the walls, but that they were repulſed with conſiderable loſs; that he however found himſelf blocked up with little proviſions and but little ammunition. Citizen Simon, Captain Commandant of the fortreſs, diſtinguiſhed himſelf much. Citizen Tedeſco, of the Adminiſtration, the only Frenchman who had a horſe, offered to go to reconnoitre the enemy, and was killed. Buonaparte was of opinion, that a deciſive battle ſhould be fought with a multitude, who only came to action when they liked it, and by whom he was haraſſed with the advantage of ſuperior numbers. He was ſenſible of the inconveniences of attempting an engagement near his poſition before Acre; he therefore gave orders for making every neceſſary diſpoſition to attack the enemy on all points, and to force them to repaſs the Jordan. (we arrived from Damas by paſſing the Jordan to the right of the lake of Tabarie, by the bridge of Jacob, three leagues from which is ſituated the caſtle of Saffet, and on the left of the lake by the bridge of Giz-el-Makanie, a ſhort diſtance from the fort of Tabarie.) Theſe two fortreſſes are to the right of the Jordan.

On the 24th, the General of Brigade, Murat, was ordered to ſet out from the camp of Acre, with a thouſand infantry, and a regiment of horſe, and to march with all poſſible ſpeed to the bridge of Jacob, of which he was to take poſſeſſion; he was then to attack the rear of the enemy, who were blockading Saffet, and afterwards to join General Kleber, who was threatened by a conſiderable force.

Buonaparte left before Acre the diviſions of Regnier and Samuel. On the 26th, he went off with the reſt of the cavalry, the diviſion of Bon, and eight pieces of artillery. He took a poſition on the heights of Saffarie, where the troops were all night under arms. On the 27th, at day-break, he marched

toward

toward Fouli, being arrived at the laſt heights from which Fouli and Mount Tabor can be diſcerned, he ſaw near the latter the diviſion of Kleber engaged with the enemy, conſiſting of 20,000 cavalry, in the midſt of whom 2000 Frenchman were fighting. We ſaw the camp of the Mamelukes extending from the foot of the mountains of Naplouſe, a diſtance of near two leagues from the ſcene of action. Buonaparte formed his troops into three ſquares, the one cavalry, in order to turn the enemy at a conſiderable diſtance, to ſeparate them from their camp, and to cut off their retreat to Jennin, in which place were their magazines, and to drive them into the Jordan, where General Murat was to cut them off. The cavalry had orders to go with two pieces of light artillery to ſtorm the enemy's camp, whilſt the infantry advanced to turn their flanks.

General Kleber had received a ſupply of ammunition, four pieces of cannon, and a reinforcement of cavalry had left his camp at Saffarie, on the 26th, and marched to Bizard, with a view of attacking the enemy on the 27th before day light, whatever might be their numbers. But, notwithſtanding all his diligence, he was prevented by the difficulties of the way and the defiles from arriving before two hours after ſun-riſe. The enemy, informed of his approach, had time to put themſelves on horſeback. General Kleber had formed his troops into two ſquare columns, and occupied ſome ruins in his front. The enemy had placed the Naplouſian infantry with two pieces of cannon, brought on camels, in the village of Fouli. All the cavalry, to the number of 20,000, ſurrounded the remainder of Kleber's diviſion, which, by the fire of its cannon and muſquetry, repulſed their numerous aſſaults with equal valour and coolneſs. We were only half a league from General Kleber when Buonaparte ordered General Rampon to march with his brigade toward Kleber's diviſion: General Vial to advance to the Mountain of Nuoces, and the guides on foot to direct our courſe ſo as to cut off their retreat to Jennin. The enemy did not, until this moment, perceive that we were French. Diſorder immediately took place in this immenſe maſs of cavalry. We fired an eight-pounder, which announced our arrival to General Kleber, who immediately ordered the village of Fouli to be attacked, and it was carried by the bayonet. He then made a charge on the enemy's cavalry, which the diviſions of Rampon and Vial had by this time cut off from the Mountains of Naplouſe, and the guides on foot ſhot the Arabs, who were eſcaping towards Jennin. The enemy heſitated, he ſaw himſelf cut off from his camp and his magazines, and was ſeized with terror. He fled, throwing himſelf behind Mount Tabor, which witneſſed his defeat. He reached in the night, and in the greateſt diſorder, the brigade of Giz-el-Makanie; one body threw themſelves into the Jordan, and miſtaking

miſtaking the ford were drowned. At this moment General Murat had ſurpriſed the ſon of the Governor of Damas at the point Jacob, had carried his camp, and ſlain all who did not take to flight. He raiſed the blockade of Saffet, and purſued the enemy ſeveral leagues on the road to Damas. The column of cavalry, which was ſent to attack the camp of the Mamelukes, led by Adjutant-General Leturc, had completely ſurpriſed it, taken 500 camels, with all their ammunition; tents, and proviſions, made 250 priſoners, and ſlew a great number of men.

On the 16th the army remained under arms on the field of battle.—Buonaparte ordered every thing to be burned or killed which was found in the villages of Noures, Jennin, and Fouli. It was neceſſary to puniſh the Naplouſians: but, after having reproached them with having taken up arms, he ſtayed his vengence, and promiſed them protection, if they would only remain quite in their mountains.—The General Murat took no repoſe. He left a detachment at the bridge of Jacob, provided Saffet with proviſions, and then advanced on the 17th to Tabarie, of which, on the next day, he took poſſeſſion. He then ſeized all the ammunition and proviſions of the enemy; the ſtores there taken were ſufficient to maintain our army for a year.—General Kleber, with his diviſion, took poſt at the Bazar of Nazareth, occupied the bridge of Giz-el-Mekanie, and the forts of Saffet and Tabarie. He was alſo charged to take care of the Jordan. Buonaparte returned to the camp before Acre, with the diviſion of Bon, and the corps of cavalry under the orders of General Murat. The reſult of the battle of Eſdrelon, or of Mount Tabor, was the defeat of 20,000 men by 4000 French, nearly the capture of their camp, their magazines, and the retreat of the enemy to Damas. By the reports of the enemy from Damas, their loſs amounted to more than 5000 men.——Buonaparte received advice that Rear-Admiral Peree, whom he had given orders to ſail with the frigates, the Juno, the Courageus, and the Alceſte, had landed at Jaffa three twenty-four pounders, and that ſix other pieces of ten pounds were arrived from Damietta.

On the 19th, ſome Arabs poſted in the inviorns of Mount Carmel, interrupted our communication. Adjutant-General Le Turc advanced with a corps of 300 men, ſurpriſed the Arabs, and bore away 800 head of cattle.

On the 5th Floreal, the mine intended to blow up the tower near the breach, was completed. The whole of our batteries commenced a cannonade upon the place: we ſet fire to the mine; but a ſubterraneous paſſage under the tower preſented a line of leſs reſiſtance. A part of the effort was ſpent and loſt. The mine blew up but on one ſide of the tower. It remained

mained, therefore, in ſuch a ſituation, that the breach was as difficult of acceſs as before.—Buonaparte ordered about thirty men to poſt themſelves in the tower ſo as to be able to reconnoitre its means of communication with the reſt of the place. Our grenadiers reached the ruins under the arch of the firſt ſtory, and took poſt there: but the enemy who kept up a communication by means of the narrow paſſages, and who were in poſſeſſion of the ruins of the upper arches, threw down burning materials upon our ſoldiers, and compelled them to abandon their poſt.——Our batteries continued to demoliſh the tower, on the 6th, and to widen the breach. In the evening we made an attempt to take poſſeſſion of the firſt ſtory. The enemy, whom we could not drive altogether from the upper ſtories, threw down more burning materials, which obliged us again to withdraw. General Veaux was dangerouſly wounded. In conſequence of his wounds, General Caffarelli died on the 8th Floreal:—in him the ſciences loſt a man highly celebrated for his talents and knowledge, and in the army a ſoldier equally active and brave. On the 9th, the ſiege artillery arrived, and every neceſſary diſpoſition was immediately made to erect it into batteries. Almoſt the whole of the enemy's pieces in the front of attack were diſmounted. They endeavoured to defend this front by flanking themſelves with a double fire of artillery and muſquetry. They conſtructed ſome external works. They had already erected one oppoſite their right: they conſtructed another on their left, oppoſite Djezzar's palace. Theſe two works advantageouſly flanked the tower that was attacked. The enemy advanced by ſapping, in order to increaſe the muſquetry fire, and hem us cloſely in. They finally marched on in a counter-attack. The enemy were greatly facilitated in preſſing forward their outworks, by being protected by the fire of the muſquetry from their towers, and from their very high walls. Our brave ſoldiers always carried the out-works, whenever they attacked them; but they were obliged to abandon them immediately, and the enemy retook poſſeſſion of them.

Four pieces of 18 pounders were on the 12th playing from the battery: their direction was to continue to demoliſh the tower at the breach; the other batteries were directed againſt the rampart, and the out-works of the enemy.—In the evening, thirty of our men were ordered to take their poſt in the tower. The ſucceeding evening the enemy, availing themſelves of a ſerpentine fortification, which they had in the ditch, fired from behind at the breach; our grenadiers withdrew, after having reconnoïtred the difficulty of getting down into the tower of the place.....The enemy, at the moment we were mounting the breach at the tower, made a ſtrong ſortie from their right; but two companies of granadiers ſhot forward,

cut

cut them off, and drowned all thoſe who could not get under the protection of the batteries of the place.—In the attacks of that day, the enemy had 500 killed or wounded. Buonaparte ordered a ſecond breach to be made in the curtain of the fortifications to the eaſt of the place, and a ſapping, in order to march againſt the ditch; he ſet the miners to work in it, and blew up the counterſcarp. On the 15th ammunition began to fail, and the fire conſequently ſlackened.

The ſappings of the enemy were puſhed on with great boldneſs on the 16th, eſpecially on their right, where it was their endeavour to cut our ſappings for the mine.—Buonaparte gave orders that at ten o'clock at night ſome companies of grenadiers ſhould throw themſelves into the outworks of the enemy. The order was executed; the enemy were ſurpriſed. and put to the ſword; their works were taken poſſeſſion of; three of their cannon were ſpiked; but our troops were not able to maintain their poſſeſſion of the works for a ſufficient length of time to deſtroy them ſo far as effectually to prevent the enemy from re-occupying them. Theſe works were in fact too much under the protection of the place. The enemy re-entered them on the 16th, and immediately ſet about repairing them: but their main object was to counteract our mine, which was meant to blow up the counterſcarp; being ſenſible of the difficulty of counteracting it outwardly, they reſolved upon cutting the counterſcarp towards the maſk of our mine, to forward which we could only work during the night, as we were but eight fathom from the counterſcarp of a ditch, which was only twenty feet broad. On the 17th, at three o'clock, we perceived that the enemy were debouching by a covert ſapping againſt the maſk of the mine. We commenced a cannonade againſt them; but the miſchief was done. During the night, we again moved againſt them, and we again drove them from their ſerpentine fortifications, but the mine was completely counter-worked, and the vent opened.—On the night between the 17th and 18th, Buonaparte gave it as his opinion, that the breach at the tower was the only paſſage which we ſhould continue to open; he conſequently iſſued orders for attacking on the night the armed poſts of the enemy, and for carrying his ſerpentine fortifications which flanked the breach, and more eſpecially that completing the gracis near our firſt mine. He likewiſe gave orders to drive the enemy from the breach, and there alſo to effect a lodgment.—On the 18th we deſcried nearly thirty ſail of ſhips, which proved to be a Turkiſh flotilla, coming from the port of Mæris, in the iſland of Rhodes bringing very conſiderable reinforcements of men, proviſions, and ammunition. This convey was eſcorted by a caravel, and ſeveral armed corvettes. Buonaparte, previous to the diſembarkation of the ſuccours ſent to the enemy,

ordered the diviſion of Bon to make the ſame attack during the night between the 18th and 19th, which had been ordered for the preceding night. At ten o'clock at night, the two armed poſts of the enemy, their fortification on the glacis, and the tower of the breach, were all carried. A lodgement was taken in the tower and the fortification of the glacis of the old mine. The 18th and 32d demi-brigades filled up the enemy's fortifications with the dead bodies of their ſlain; they alſo carried off ſeveral ſtand of colours, and ſpiked the cannon—never was more intrepidity diſplayed. On the morning of the 19th, Buonaparte gave orders for battering in breach the curtain to the right of the tower. The curtain fell, and diſcovered a breach far from being impracticable. Buonaparte ruſhed towards it, and ordered an aſſault. The diviſion of Lannes was on this duty, having before him his pioneers and grenadiers, under the command of the General of Brigade, Rambeaud.

Floreal 12.—We now vigorouſly attacked the breach, and carried it. About a hundred men had deſcended into the place; orders had been given that at the ſame time our troops that were in the breach-tower, ſhould attack ſome of the enemy who had poſted themſelves on the ruins of a ſecond tower which commanded the right of the breach. Orders had alſo been iſſued to fall upon the outer armed poſts of the enemy. The enemy, as they came out from their outer armed poſts, filed off in the ditch to the right and left, and commenced a fire of muſquetry, which attacked the rear of the breach; ſome Turks who had not been diſlodged from the ſecond tower which commanded the right of the breach alſo began a fire of muſquetry, which took us in flank. They threw down combuſtible materials, which ſtruck confuſion into thoſe who were engaged in ſcaling the breach;—the fire from the houſes, the ſtreets, the palace of Dgezzar, &c. &c. which came on the rear of thoſe who deſcended from the breach into the town, produced a retrogade movement among ſome of thoſe who had already got into the town, and who had ſucceeded in taking two pieces of cannon, and two mortars. Night now came on, and orders were given to retreat. General Rambeaud was killed in the place.

We learnt, as we returned to the camp, that Rear-Admiral Perree had taken, upon a cruize before Jaffa, two ſhips belonging to the Turkiſh fleet, on board of which were four hundred men, ſix pieces of field artillery, and a conſiderable quantity of harneſſes, proviſions, and 150,000 livres in ſpecie, and the Inſpector of the Turkiſh fleet, who had given in an account of the forces embarked in the flotilla, and alſo a ſtatement of the quantity of warlike ſtores.

On

On the 21ſt, at two o'clock in the morning, Buonaparte advanced to the foot of the breach; the pioneers belonging to the diviſions, the grenadiers of the 75th, and of the 19th, the carabineers of the 2d light infantry, were ordered to advance and to ſurpriſe the enemy. They arrived at the appointed ſpot, and put the outpoſts to the ſword, but they diſcovered a ſeries of internal entrenchments which ſtopped their progreſs.

In theſe three aſſaults we loſt about 500 men in killed and wounded. Adjutant General Fouler and the Chief of the 25th, Citizen Venoux, were killed, and General Bon was mortally wounded:—the aſſiſtant Adjutant Netherwood and Montpattis, and Citizen Arrighy, my Aid-de-Camp, were ſeverely wounded;—Adjutant Pinault was killed; and the aſſiſtant Adjutant Genbault was mortally wounded; as alſo Citizen Croſier, Aid-de-camp of the General in Chief. General Verdier commanded in theſe two affairs the grenadiers and the pioneers.

22.—On the morning of the 22d, Buonaparte ſent a flag of truce to Dgezzar, by a Turk who had been taken as a ſpy, (with barbarians you cannot venture to follow the uſages of civilized nations!) He was fired at, and the fire of the place continued. On the 24th the flag of truce was again ſent in. He now got into the town; but they ſtill continued their fire. There was no appearance of our receiving an anſwer: on the contrary, about ſix in the evening, on the ſignal of a cannonſhot, the enemy came out from the right and left, but they were repulſed. Buonaparte beheld the object of his expedition accompliſhed. The army had traverſed the Deſart which ſeparates Africa from Aſia and had ſurmounted every obſtacle with more firmneſs and perſeverance than an army of Arabs. They had taken poſſeſſion of all the fortreſſes which defend the wells of the Deſart; they had diſperſed, in the plains of Eſdrelon and of Mount Tabor, an army of 28,000 horſes aſſembled from all parts of Aſia, in the hopes of plundering Egypt, thirty ſhips with a Turkiſh army deſtined to beſiege the ports of Egypt, had been compelled to haſten to Acre, where that ſquadron cloſed its deſtiny. In fine, with about 10,000 men they ſucceeded in keeping up the war during three months, in the very heart of Syria; they took forty field-pieces, killed or made priſoners 7,000 men, carried away fifty ſtand of colours, opened the fortreſſes of Gaza, Jaffa, Caiffa, Acre, deſtroyed the enemy that was marching to invade Egypt, took their field equipage, their camels, their General, &c. The ſeaſon of embarking for Egypt called him thither imperiouſly; diſeaſes of different kinds, were making a dreadful havoc in Syria; 700 men had already fallen victims to them; and by the accounts that came from Sour, we learnt that more than 60 men died daily in the fortreſs of Acre from theſe diſtempers.

Buonaparte did not think it advisable farther to prolong his stay before Acre, where a few days more would give him hopes to take the Pacha himself in the midst of his palace. He imagined that, during that season, the capture of the fortress of Acre, would not compensate the loss of a few days, and of some brave men whom he might be obliged to leave there, and who would be absolutely necessary to him in more essential operations. All those who have carried on sieges against the Turks are well apprised that they all, even women and children, expose themselves to death, and defend to the last heap of stones that remains. They place no reliance in the good faith of capitulations, because they know of nothing else than murdering their enemies. Buonaparte decided upon raising the siege; but several days would be requisite for the removal of the sick and wounded. During that interval, he ordered all the batteries, both of cannon and mortars, to be directed against the palace of Dgezzar, and that all the siege ammunition should be expended in demolishing it, together with the fortifications, and other public buildings.

On the 27th, about half past two in the morning, the enemy made a sortie, but he was repulsed; at seven in the morning, he made another sortie on all points: He was again repulsed: The ground was every where strewed with their dead. We lost 60 men killed and wounded. General Verdiere commanded the attack on the trenches.

On the 28th, an English flag of truce advanced towards us, and brought back the Turk whom we had sent as a flag of truce to Dgezzar on the 2d. The flag of truce brought a letter from the English Commodore, the purport of which was to inform us, that at Dgezzar was under the protection of the English fleet, he could make no reply to us, but through the medium of the English Commodore. A packet was also brought to us, containing suppositious proclamations of the Porte, and certified by the signature—"Sidney Smith."—— These proclamations, charging us with violating the Rights of Nations, and forgetting treaties, were read by the whole army, who returned no other answer to them, but that contempt with which a dastardly action inspires true honour. The English Admiral informed us that a treaty was agreed upon between England and the Porte—signed the 5th of January, 1799. The English canoe, and the officer, were sent back without any answer. The fire was continued on both sides.——

Prairial 1.—The enemy, who had been bombarded and cannonaded by a very severe fire, and who saw the destruction of the palace of Dgezzar, of that part of their fortifications which had not yet been attacked, and of all the public edifices,

fices, attempted another ſortie the 1ſt Prarial, at day break; they were again repulſed. At three in the afternoon they ruſhed forward, and attacked every point. They availed themſelves of the reinforcements they had received, and their object was to throw themſelves into our batteries. This attack was made with more than their uſual ferocity; they were, however, repulſed on all ſides, except at the turn of the glacis, near the breach tower, of which they took poſſeſſion; but it was ſoon retaken by General Lagrange, who attacked the enemy with two companies of grenadiers, and even purſued them into their external armed poſt, of which he made himſelf maſter, and compelled the enemy to retire into the place. The enemy, in that rencontre, loſt a conſiderable number of their braveſt troops.

The whole of the ſiege artillery was now removed. It was replaced in the batteries by ſome field-piece. What was uſeleſs was thrown into the ſea. By means of a mine, and ſapping, we deſtroyed an aqueduct of ſeveral leagues in length, with which Acre was ſupplied with freſh water; all the magazines and the harveſt in the environs of Acre were reduced to aſhes. At nine in the evening of the 1ſt Prairial, the drums were beat to march, and the ſiege, which laſted ſixty-one days after the opening of the trenches, was raiſed. When they had paſſed the bridge, the diviſion of Kleber began likewiſe to move. It was followed by the cavalry, who left 100 dragoons diſmounted to protect the workmen employed in deſtroying the two bridges. They had orders not to quit the banks of the river till two hours after the laſt of the infantry had croſſed. General Junot, with his corps, had proceeded to the mill of Kerdanna, to cover the left wing of the army.

The enemy continued to fire upon our parallels during the whole night, and did not perceive till next day that the ſiege was raiſed. They had ſuffered ſo much, that they did not attempt any movement to follow us.

The army conducted the march with the greateſt order. On the 2d we arrived at Cantoura, a port which had been our landing place for the articles coming from Damietta to Jaffa, and where had been landing our beſieging artillery, and the Turkiſh field-pieces taken at Jaffa. This artillery, conſiſting of forty pieces, had been, from time to time, carried to the camp of Acre, to ſupply the place of the French field-pieces which we were obliged to employ as battering pieces in the ſiege. Buonaparte had not horſes ſufficient to draw this immenſe quantity of Turkiſh artillery. He preferred the mode of carrying off by ſea to Jaffa his ſick and wounded. He reſolved to carry off only twenty Turkiſh

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pieces. He cauſed twenty to be thrown into the ſea, and burnt the carriages and caiſſos on the harbour of Cantoura.

On the 3d the army ſlept upon the ruins of Ceſarea. The following day ſeveral Nauplouſians appeared at the port of Abouzaboura. Some of them were taken and ſhot; the reſt retired. Their purpoſe was to plunder the ſtragglers who are to be found about an army.

On the 4th the army encamped four leagues from Jaffa, upon a river which formed a kind of creek. Detachments were ſent to burn the villages which had ſent parties to haraſs out convoys during the ſiege. The grain was burnt, and the cattle carried off.

On the 5th the army arrived at Jaffa. A bridge of boats had been thrown over the little river of Ighahia, which is with difficulty paſſed at a ford along the bar, formed at the place where it falls into the ſea. On the 6th, 7th, and 8th, the army ſtopped at Jaffa. This interval was employed in puniſhing the villages which had conducted themſelves improperly. The corn, as well as the cattle, was carried off. The fortifications of Jaffa were blown up. The merchants of Jaffa paid a contribution of 150,000 livres.

General Dugua wrote to Buonaparte from Egypt, informing him that ſymptoms of revolt had manifeſted themſelves in the provinces of Beniſneff, Charkie, and eſpecially in that of Bahire; that the Engliſh had made their appearance at Suez: that the Mamelukes who were driven from Upper Egypt, and who had deſcended into the provinces of Lower Egypt, made ſeveral attempts to ſtimulate the people to inſurrection; but every thing was quieted by the activity of the troops, and the vigilant conduct of the generals, but that the city of Cairo, and the other principal cities of Egypt, had remained in the moſt perfect tranquillity.

Theſe inſurrections were a ramification of the plan of a general attack, which was to have been made upon the French in Egypt, and that at the time Dgezzar was to go into Syria, and when the Anglo-Turkiſh fleet was to preſent itſelf before Damietta.

The army ſet out on the 9th for Ibne. Reignier's diviſion forming the left column, marching by Ramie, with orders to burn the villages, and deſtroy all the harveſt. The head quarters, the diviſion of Bon, and that of Lannes, took the central road, and likewiſe burnt the villages and the corn harveſt. A column of cavalry was detached to the right along the coaſt. They ſcoured the downs, and drove in all the cattle that had there been collected. Kleber's diviſion formed

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the rear guard, and had orders not to quit Jaffa till the 10th. In this order the army marched as far as Kan Jouniſſe; that immenſe plain preſented but one blaze of fire; ſo dreadful was the vengeance inflicted for the aſſaſſinations committed on our troops, and for the very frequent attacks on our convoys, while this ſevere meaſure, render neceſſary by the laws of war, deprived the enemy of all means of furniſhing magazies and ſecuring proviſions. The army encamped on the 10th at Mecheltal, and arrived on the 11th at Gaza, from which it moved again on the 12th That city had conducted itſelf very peaceably: it was therefore entitled to protection of perſons and property. The fortreſs was blown up, and three of the rich inhabitants, whoſe conduct had been very hoſtile, we taxed with a contribution of one hundred thouſand livres. Kleber's diviſion continued a day's march behind. The army arrived at Kan-Jouneſſe on the 12th, and again purſued their march on the 13th. They entered the Deſart, followed by an immenſe quantity of cattle which they had taken from the enemy, and with which they intended to proviſion El-ariſch. The Deſart between this place and Kan-Jouneſſe compriſes a ſpace of eleven leagues, inhabited by the Arabs, who had frequently attacked our convoys. We burnt ſeveral of their camps; we carried away a great number of their cattle and camels, and ſet fire to a ſmall harveſt that was collected in ſome parts of the Deſart.

On the 14th, the army ſtopped for the day at El-ariſch. Buonaparte there left a garriſon. He ordered new works to be conſtructed for the defenee of the fort. He cauſed it to be ſupplied with ſtores and proviſions. The army continued its march to Cathich, where it arrived on the 19th. The diviſions, although marching ſucceſſively, ſuſtained great inconvenience from want of water. The Deſart is 22 leagues in extent, in which there is no ſupply to be had, except about half way, where there is a bad well of brackiſh water.

On the 18th the army continued its march. The head quarters were removed on the 19th, in order to proceed to Salchich. The diviſion of Kleber marched to Tinch, to embark for Damietta.——The reſt of the army was collected at Cathich, where it remained ſome time, and then proceeded to Cairo, where it arrived on the 26th. The natives were aſtoniſhed to ſee the army in the ſame ſtate as if juſt came out of barracks. The ſoldiers conſidered themſelves as it were in their native country in returning to Cairo, and the inhabitants received us as their compatriots.

The army engaged in the Syrian Expedition, in four months

loſt about 700 men by diſeaſe, 500 killed in battle, and about 1000 wounded, 90 of whom underwent amputation, and where rendered incapable of ſerving but in the invalids. Almoſt all the other wounded men are cured, and have joined their corps.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER BERTHIER.

General of Diviſion, Chief of the Staff.

Cairo, 6 Meſſidor, Year 7.

BATTLE OF ABOUKIR.

Head-Quarters, Alexandria, 11th Thermidor, (July 29.)

IMMEDIATELY upon his return to Cairo from the Syrian Expedition, Buonaparte directed his attention to the formation of different corps. He ſoon put the army in a ſtate to march to new combats. He had deſtroyed one part of the general plan of attack combined between the Porte and England, and he every moment expected that he would have to attack the other parts.

The march of Murad Bey, and the movements of the Arabs on the Lakes of Natron and at Marjout, indicating a plan for protecting a deſcent either at the Tour of the Anates, or at Aboukir.

General Langrange, with a moveable column, left Cairo on the 22d Meſſidor (July 10), and arrived at Sababiar, where he ſurpriſed the Mamelukes in their camp. They had ſcarcely time to eſcape, and abandon all their baggage, and 700 camels. We took fifty of their horſes. The Mamelukes fled into the Deſart.

General Murat, with another moveable column, received orders to proceed to the Lakes of Natron, diſperſe the Arabs collected there, ſecond the operations of General Deſtaing, and cut off the retreat of Murad Bey. This General arrived at the Lakes of Natron at Kiachef, and thirty Mamelukes were purſued, along with ſome Arabs, by General Deſtaing. Murad Bey, when near the Lakes of Natron, learned that the French were there, and made a retrogade movement. On the 25th (July 13), he reſted near the Pyramids of Gizeh, on the ſide of the Deſart.

Buonaparte

Buonaparte being informed of these movements, left Cairo on the 26th Messidor (July 14), with the horse and foot guides, the grenadiers of the 32d and 18th demi-brigades, the pioneers, and two pieces of cannon. He determined to stop all night at the Pyramids, where he ordered General Murat to join him: arrived at the Pyramids, his advanced guard pursued the Arabs who followed Murad Bey, and who had begun in the morning to return towards the Fayum. A number of the Arabs were killed, and some camels taken.

The General in Chief, with the head quarters, left Gizeh, on the 28th Messidor (July 16), stopped that night at Wardan, the next at Terrane, and on the 30th at Schabours. He arrived on the 1st Thermidor (July 19), at Rhamanie, where the division of the army formed a junction on the 2d and 3d.

Buonaparte received intelligence that the 100 sail of Turkish vessels, which anchored off Aboukir on the 24th (July 12), had landed about 3000 men, and some artillery, on the 27th (July 15), and attacked the redoubt of Aboukir, which they carried by storm. The fort of Aboukir, the commandant of which was killed, surrendered by one of those acts of cowardice which merit a severe example on the part of the government.

This fort is defended by a ditch twenty feet wide, and has a counterscarp cut in the rock. The interior works are in a good condition, and it might have held out until it was relieved. Adjutant-General Jellien displayed much ability in his conduct both in a political and military point of view. He placed in the front of Rosetta all his provisions and ammunition, and the sick of his corps; but he remained in the town with about 100 men under his command. He preserved confidence and tranquillity in his province, and repressed the agents of the enemy.

General Marmont wrote, that the enemy had taken Aboukir by capitulation; that he was employed in landing his artillery; that he had cut the pontoons which we had constructed for the communication with Rosetta, on the passage which joins Lake Madie to the road of Aboukir; that the spies he had sent out brought intelligence that the enemy intended to besiege Alexandria, and was about 15,000 men strong.

Buonaparte was sensible that the enemy daily acquired new strength: that it was important to take a position, from which he might be equally well attacked, whether he proceeded to Rosetta, or invested Alexandria; and, finally, such a position as would afford the opportunity of marching to Aboukir, if the enemy should remain there, attacking him, seizing his artillery,

driving him into the ſea, bombarding him in the fort, and retaking it from him.

Buonaparte determined to take a poſition at the village of Birket, ſituated near one of the angles of Lake Madie, from which we could march with equal fecility to Lecco, Roſetta, Alexandria and Aboukir. This poſition had likewiſe the advantage of confining the enemy to the peninſula of Aboukir, of interrupting his communication with the country, and intercepting the reinforcements which he might expect from the Mamelukes and Arabs.

General Murat, with the cavalry, the dromedaries, the grenadiers, and the firſt battalion of the 69th demi-brigade, departed from Rhamanie on the 2d Thermidor (July 20), in the evening, to proceed to Birket. He was ordered to preſerve a communication with Alexandria by detachments.

The army and the head-quarters removed from Rhamanie on the 4th Thermidor (July 22). On the 5th, it took a poſition at Birket. The miners were ſent to Leda to dig wells; ſprings were diſcovered; the wells formed and guarded.

General Mormount was reinforced at Alexandria by the General of Brigade Deſtaing, who returned with a moveable column from Mariout, where he had defeated a corps of Arabs and Mamelukes. In conſequence of the orders of the Commander in Chief, he ſent to General Murat 150 cavalry, 40 dromedaries, and two 18-pounders, belonging to General Deſtaing's column. This enabled General Murat to form a corps of 600 cavalry, 100 dromedaries, and five pieces of light artillery.

The army departed from Birket in the night of the 5th. One diviſion took a poſition at Hafr-Lin, and another at Leda. The head quarters proceeded to Alexandria.

In the afternoon Buonaparte left Alexandria with the head quarters, and took a poſition at the wells between Alexandria and Aboukir.

The cavalry of General Murat, the diviſions of Lannes, and Rampon, were ordered to proceed to the ſame poſition. They arrived there at midnight on the 6th, and likewiſe 400 cavalry from Upper Egypt.

The army began to move at day break on the 7th Thermidor (25th July). The advanced guard was commanded by General Murat, who had under his orders 400 cavalry, and the Brigadier-General Deſtaing, with three battalions, and two pieces of cannon.

Brigadier-

Brigadier-General Davouſt, with two ſquadrons, and 100 dromedaries, was ordered to take a poſition between Alexandria and the army, in order to oppoſe the Arabs and Murad Bey, who were every moment expected to arrive, with the deſign of joining the Turkiſh army, and in order to preſerve the communication with Alexandria.

The General of diviſion, Menou, who had proceeded to Roſetta, was ordered to take poſt by day-break at the extremity of the bar of Roſetta, at Aboukir, and near the entrance of the Lake Madie, in order to cannonade ſuch of the enemy's veſſels as he might find on the Lake, and to haraſs his left.

The enemy's firſt line was poſted about half a league in front of the fort of Aboukir. About 1000 men occupied a mount of ſand, defended on its right towards the ſea by entrenchments, and ſupported by a village to the diſtance of about 300 toiſes, which was occupied by 1200 men, and four pieces of cannon. The left was upon a detached ſand hill, to the left of the peninſula, and about 600 toiſes in front of the firſt line. This poſition was very badly fortified, and was beſides of no real importance; but the enemy occupied it in order to cover the moſt plentiful wells of Aboukir. Some gun-boats appeared to be ſtationed ſo as to protect the ſpace between this poſition and the ſecond line, which was alſo occupied by 2000 men, provided with ſix pieces of canon. The enemy's ſecond poſition was about 300 toiſes in the rear of the firſt village; his centre at the redoubt which he had taken from us; his right behind an entrenchment which he had extended from the redoubt to the ſea, a ſpace of about 150 toiſes; his left was poſted between the redoubt and the ſea, on ſome low ſand hills and the ſhore, commanded by the fire from the redoubt and the gun-boats. In this poſition there was about 7000 men, and twelve pieces of cannon. About 100 toiſes behind the redoubt lay the village and fort of Aboukir, occupied by nearly 1500 men. The train of the Pacha, who had the chief command, conſiſted of 80 horſemen.

Buonaparte ordered the columns to halt, and made his diſpoſitions for the attack.

Brigadier-General Deſtaing, with his three battalions, were to carry the height of the enemy's right, which was occupied by 1000 men, while a piquet of cavalry was at the ſame time to cut off the retreat of this corps upon the village.

The diviſion of Lannes was ordered to advance upon the ſand hill, to the left of the firſt line of the enemy, where he had 2000 men, and ſix pieces of cannon. A ſquadron of cavalry

was ordered to obſerve the motions of this corps, and to cut off its retreat.

General Deſtaing advanced upon the enemy at the charge of bayonet. He abandoned his entrenchments, and retreated towards the village. The fugitives were cut in pieces by the cavalry.

The corps againſt which the diviſion of Lannes marched, ſeeing the firſt line give way, and the cavalry about to turn its poſition, fired only a few ſhot, and immediately quitted it. Two ſquadrons of cavalry, and a platoon of guides on horſe-back cut off their retreat, and killed or drove into the ſea this body of 2000 men, of which not an individual eſcaped.

The village was then carried, and the enemy purſued as far as the redoubt, in the centre of the ſecond poſition.

This ſecond poſition was very ſtrong, the redoubt being flanked by a ditch of communication, which ſecured the peninſula on the right as far as the ſea. Another ditch of the like kind ſtretched along on the left, at a ſmall diſtance from the redoubt.

The remaining ſpace was occupied by the enemy ſtationed on the ſand hills and in the batteries. In this poſition the enemy had from 8 to 9000 men.

Whilſt the troops took breath, ſome pieces of artillery were planted in the village, and along the ſhore on our left. A fire was opened on the redoubt, and on the enemy's right.

The cavalry on our right attacked the enemy's left, which it repeatedly charged with the greateſt impetuoſity, cutting down or driving into the ſea, every one that came in their way. But they could not penetrate beyond the redoubt without being put between its fire and that of the gun boats. Hurried by their bravery into this terrible defile, they fell back at each charge, and the enemy made a ſtand with freſh forces on the dead bodies of their companions.

The chief of brigade Duvivier was killed, but the Adjutant-General Rouize continued to direct their movements with diſtinguiſhed ability and coolneſs. The Adjutant-General Leturc, the chief of brigade Beſſieres, and the cavalry guides, were at the head of the charging column. Leturc thought that it was neceſſary to have a reinforcement of infantry: on communicating his deſire, the General in chief ſent him a battalion of the 75th. He again joined the cavalry; his horſe was ſhot; he then put himſelf at the head of the infantry, and flew from the centre to the left, in order to join the van of the 18th,

18th, which he ſaw on their march to attack the enemy's right.

The 18th marched towards the entrenchments; the enemy at the ſame inſtant ſallied out upon the right: the heads of the columns fought body to body; the Turks endeavoured to wreſt from our men the bayonets, which proved fatal to them. They flung their muſkets behind them, and fought with their ſabres and piſtols, for every Turk carries a muſket, two piſtols in his girdle, and a ſabre. The 18th at length reached the entrenchments; but the fire from the redoubt, which every where flanked the entrenchments, where the enemy again rallied, checked the column at the moment when every thing yielded to its impulſe, General Fuguieres and Adjutant-General Leturc performed prodigies of valour. The former received a wound in the head, but he ſtill continued to fight; a ball then ſhot off his left arm, and he was obliged to follow the 18th, which retreated to the village, keeping up however, a hot fire during the movement. The Adjutant-General Leturc, having in vain exhorted the column to throw itſelf into the enemy's entrenchments, ruſhed into them himſelf, he was unſupported, and met a glorious death. The chief of brigade Morangie was wounded.

The General in Chief directed a battalion of the 23d light infantry, and one of the 69th, to advance upon the left of the enemy. General Lannes, who was at the head of theſe troops, ſeized the moment when the enemy had imprudently left his entrenchments. He attacked the redoubt vigorouſly, upon its left and on the breaſt work. The 22d and 69th leaped into the ditch, and were ſoon upon the parapet, and within the redoubt. Meanwhile the 18th puſhed forward at the charging ſtep of the enemy.

General Murat, who followed every movement, who commanded the advanced guard, who was conſtantly with the ſharp ſhooters, and who on this day diſplayed as much coolneſs as talent, ſeized the moment when General Lannes attacked the redoubt to order a corps of infantry to charge and traverſe all the enemy's poſitions as far as the ditch of the fort of Aboukir. This movement was executed with ſo much impetuoſity, and ſo opportunely, that at the moment the redoubt was forced, this corps had already reached its deſtination, and entirely cut off the enemy's retreat to the fort. The route was complete. Confuſed and terrified, the enemy found every where the bayonet and death. The cavalry cut them down with their ſabres. They believed they had no reſource left but to fly to the ſea, into which 6 or 7,000 threw themſelves. There they were aſſailed by muſkets and grape-ſhot. Never was ſo terrible a

ſpectacle

ſpectacle exhibited before. Not a man eſcaped—the ſhips were two leagues diſtant in the road of Aboukir.

Muſtapha Pacha, Commander in Chief of the Turkiſh army, was taken, with about 200 Turks; two thouſand men lay on the field of battle. All the tents, the baggage, and 20 pieces of cannon (two of which were Engliſh, being given by the court of London to the Grand Seignior) fell into our hands. Two Engliſh boats fled from our grape ſhot. Ten thouſand Turks were drowned.

We took a near poſition, and removed the killed and wounded. Our loſs, in this action, was 150 killed, and 750 wounded; among the latter was General Murat, who was wounded in the head, but not dangerouſly. Cretin, chief of the brigade of engineers, died of his wounds, as alſo did Citizen Guibert.

During the night the enemy's ſquadron communicates with the fort. The troops are re-organized—the fort defends itſelf. We have eſtabliſhed batteries of mortars and cannon to batter it, and it is to be preſumed that it will ſoon be in our power. General Lannes was wounded in the leg.

In expectation of the fort ſurrendering, Buonaparte returned to Alexandria, where he examined the ſtate of the garriſon. Too much praiſe cannot be given to General Marmont, with reſpect to the works of that place, which he has extended and increaſed with equal induſtry and judgment. Every part of the ſervice is completely organized. In a word, General Marmont has fully juſtified the confidence the General in Chief placed in him, when he entruſted him with ſo important a command.

(Signed) ALEX. BERTHIER,
General of Diviſion, Chief of the Staff.

LETTERS

LETTERS
OF
SIR WILLIAM SIDNEY SMITH.

From the London Gazette.

Admiralty-Office, Sept. 10, 1799.

A LETTER from Captain Sir SIDNEY SMITH of his Majeſty's ſhip Tigre, to EVAN NEPEAN, Eſq. Secretary to the Admiralty, with his incloſures, of which the following are copies, were yeſterday received at this Office.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Sir WM. SIDNEY SMITH, *of His Majeſty's ſhip Tigre, to* EVAN NEPEAN, *Eſq. dated off Mount Lebanon, June* 16, 1799.

SIR MORTEN EDEN has forwarded a duplicate of your letter of the 4th of May, informing me of the ſailing of the French fleet from Breſt. I take for granted this fleet is bound for theſe ſeas to ſupport Buonaparte's operations, not knowing that his expedition to Syria has completely failed, as the incloſed duplicates will inform their Lordſhips.

MY LORD, *TIGRE, Acre, May* 9, 1799.

I HAD the honour to inform your Lordſhip by my letter of the 2d inſtant, (in which Sir Sidney ſtates the heroiſm and perſeverance of the Engliſh and Turks to be almoſt unexampled; and that the repeated efforts of the French to take Acre by ſtorm had been uniformly unſucceſsful: But the nature of theſe proceedings is ſo fully and clearly given in the preſent diſpatch as to ſupercede the neceſſity of inſerting that of the 2d;) that we were buſily employed completing two ravelins for the reception of cannon to flank the enemy's neareſt approaches, diſtant only ten yards from them. They were attacked that very night, and almoſt every night ſince, but the enemy have each time been repulſed with very conſiderable loſs; the enemy continued to batter in breach with progreſſive ſucceſs, and have nine ſeveral times attempted to ſtorm, but have as often been beaten back with immenſe ſlaughter. Our beſt mode of defence have been frequent ſorties to keep them on the defenſive, and impede the progreſs of their covering works. We have thus been in one continued battle ever ſince the beginning of the ſiege, interrupted only at ſhort intervals by the exceſſive fatigue of every individual on both ſides. We had been long anxiouſly looking for a reinforcement, without which we could not expect to be able to keep the place ſo long as we have. The delay of its arrival being occaſioned by Haſſan Bey's having originally received orders to join me in Egypt, I was obliged to be very peremptory in the repetition of my orders for him to join me here; it was not,

not, however, till the evening of the day before yeſterday, the fifty-firſt day of the ſiege, that this fleet of corvettes and tranſports made its appearance. The approach of this additional ſtrength was the ſignal to Buonaparte for a moſt vigorous and perſevering aſſault, in hopes to get poſſeſſion of the town before the reinforcement to the garriſon could diſembark.

The conſtant fire of the beſiegers was ſuddenly increaſed ten fold, our flanking fire from aſloat was, as uſual, plied to the utmoſt; but with leſs effect than heretofore, as the enemy had thrown up epaulments and traverſers of ſufficient thickneſs to protect him from it. The guns that could be worked to the greateſt advantage were a French braſs eighteen-pounder in the Light-houſe caſtle, manned from the Theſeus under the direction of Mr. Scroder, maſter's mate, and the laſt mounted twenty-four pounder in the North Ravelin, manned from the Tigre, under the direction of Mr. Jones, midſhipman. Theſe guns being within grape diſtance of the head of the attacking column, added to the Turkiſh muſquetry, did great execution; and I take this opportunity of recommending theſe two petty officers, whoſe indefatigable vigilance and zeal merit my warmeſt praiſe. The Tigre's two 68-pound carronades, mounted in two germes lying in the mole; and worked under the direction of Mr. Bray, carpenter of the Tigre (one of the braveſt and moſt intelligent men I have ſerved with,) threw ſhells into the centre of this column with evident effect, and checked it conſiderably. Still, however, the enemy gained ground, and made a lodgment in the ſecond ſtory of the North-eaſt Tower: the upper part being entirely battered down, and the ruins in the ditch forming the aſcent by which they mounted. Day-light ſhewed us the French ſtandard on the outer angle of the tower. The fire of the beſieged was much ſlackened in compariſon to that of the beſiegers, and our flanking fire was become of leſs effect, the enemy having covered themſelves in this lodgment and the approach to it by two traverſes acroſs the ditch, which they had conſtructed under the fire that had been oppoſed to them during the whole of the night, and which were now ſeen compoſed of ſand-bags, and the bodies of their dead built in with them, their bayonets only been viſible above them. Haſſan's Bey's troops were in the boats, though as yet but half way to ſhore. This was a moſt critical point of the conteſt; and an effort was neceſſary to preſerve the place for a ſhort time till their arrival.

I accordingly landed the boats at the mole, and took the crews up to the breach armed with pikes. The enthuſiaſtic gratitude of the Turks, men, women and children, at ſight of ſuch a reinforcement, at ſuch a time, is not to be deſcribed. Many fugitives returned with us to the breach, which we found

found defended by a few brave Turks, whoſe moſt deſtructive miſſile weapons were heavy ſtones, which ſtriking the aſſailants on the head, overthrew the foremoſt down the ſlope, and impeded the progreſs of the reſt. A ſucceſſion, however, aſcended to the aſſault, the heap of ruins between the two parties ſerving as a breaſt-work for both, the muzzles of their muſkets touching, and the ſpear heads of the ſtandards locked. Gezza Pacha hearing the Engliſh were on the breach, quitted his ſtation, where, according to the ancient Turkiſh cuſtom, he was ſitting to reward ſuch as ſhould bring him the heads of the enemy, and diſtributing muſket-cartridges with his own hands. The energetic old man coming behind us, pulled us down with violence, ſaying, if any harm happened to his Engliſh friends, all was loſt. This amicable conteſt, as to who ſhould defend the breach, occaſioned a ruſh of Turks to the ſpot, and thus time was gained for the arrival of the firſt body of Haſſan Bey's troops. I had now to combat the Pacha's repugnance to admitting any troops but his Albanians into the garden of his ſeraglio, become a very important poſt, as occupying the *terre-plein* of the rampart. There was not above 200 of the original 1000 Albanians left alive. This was no time for debate, and I over-ruled his objections by introducing the Chiffliek regiment 1000 men armed with bayonets, diſciplined after the European method under Sultan Selim's own eye, and placed by his Imperial Majeſty's expreſs commands at my diſpoſal. The garriſon animated by the appearance of ſuch a reinforcement, was now all on foot, and there being conſequently enough to defend the breach, I propoſed to the Pacha to get rid of the objects of his jealouſy, by opening his gates to let them make a ſally and take the aſſailants in flank: He readily complied, and I gave directions to the Colonel to get poſſeſſion of the enemy's third parallel or neareſt trench, and there fortify himſelf by ſhifting the parapet outwards. This order being clearly underſtood, the gates were opened: and the Turks ruſhed out; but they were not equal to ſuch a movement, and were driven back to the town with loſs. Mr. Bray, however, as uſual, protected the town-gate efficaciouſly with grape from the ſixty-eight pounders. The ſortie had this good effect, that it obliged the enemy to expoſe themſelves above their parapets, ſo that our flanking fire brought down numbers of them, and drew their force from the breach, ſo that the ſmall number remaining on the lodgment were killed or diſperſed by our few remaining hand grenades, thrown by Mr. Savage, midſhipman of the Theſeus. The enemy began a new breach by an inceſſant fire directed to the ſouthward of the lodgment, every ſhot knocking down whole ſheets of a wall much leſs ſolid than that of the tower on which they had expended ſo much time and ammunition. The group of Generals and Aids-du-camp which the ſhells from the 68-

pounders had frequently diſperſed, was now re-aſſembled on Richard Cœur de Lion's Mount. Buonaparté was diſtinguiſhable in the centre of a ſemicircle; his geſticulations indicated a renewal of attack, and his diſpatching an Aid-du-camp to the camp ſhewed that we waited only for a reinforcement. I gave directions for Haſſan Bey's ſhips to take their ſtations in the ſhoal water to the ſouthward, and made the Tigre's ſignal to weigh, and join the Theſeus to the northward. A little before ſunſet, a maſſive column appeared advancing to the breach with a ſolemn ſtep. The Pacha's idea was not to defend the brink this time, but rather to let a certain number of the enemy in, and then cloſe with them, according to the Turkiſh mode of war. The column thus mounted the breach unmoleſted, and deſcending from the rampart into Pacha's garden, where, in a very few minutes, the braveſt and moſt advanced among them lay headleſs corpſes. The ſabre, with the addition of a dagger in the other hand, proving more than a match for the bayonet; the reſt retreated precipitately; and the commanding officer, who was ſeen manfully encouraging his men to mount the breach, and who we have ſince learnt to be General Laſne, was carried off, wounded by a muſquet ſhot. General Rambaud was killed. Much confuſion aroſe in the town from the actual entry of the enemy, it having been impoſſible, nay impolitic, to give previous information to every body of the mode of defence adopted, leſt the enemy ſhould come at a knowledge of it by means of their numerous emiſſaries. The Engliſh uniform which had hitherto ſerved as a rallying point for the old garriſon wherever it appeared, was now in the duſk miſtaken for French, and newly arrived Turks not diſtinguiſhing between one hat and another in the crowd, and thus many a ſevere blow of a ſabre was parried by our officers, among which Colonel Douglaſs, Mr. Ives, and Mr Jones, had nearly loſt their lives, as they were forcing their way through a torrent of fugitives. Calm was reſtored by the Pacha's exertions, aided by Mr. Trotter, who had juſt arrived with Haſſan Bey, and thus the conteſt of twenty-five hours ended, both parties being ſo fatigued as to be unable to move. Buonaparte will, no doubt renew the attack, the breach being, as above deſcribed; perfectly practicable for fifty men a breaſt; indeed the town is not, nor ever has been defenſive according to the rules of art, but, according to every other rule, it muſt and ſhall be defended, not that it is in itſelf worth defending but we feel that it is by this breach Buonaparte means to march to farther conqueſts. It is on the iſſue of this conflict that depends the opinion of the multitude of ſpectators on the ſurrounding hills, who wait only to join the victor, and with ſuch a reinforcement for the execution of his known projects, Conſtantinople and even Vienna muſt feel the ſhock. Be aſſured my Lord, the magnitude of our obligations does but increaſe the energy of our efforts in the attempt to diſcharge our duty,

and

and though we may, and probable ſhall be overpowered, I can venture to ſay that the French will be ſo much farther weakened before it prevails, as to be little able to profit by its dear bought victory.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

Rear-Admiral Lord NELSON.

TIGRE, at Anchor off Jaffa, May 30, 1799.

MY LORD,

The providence of Almighty God has been wonderfully manifeſted in the defeat and precipitate retreat of the French army. the means we had of oppoſing its gigantic efforts againſt us being totally inadequate of themſelves to the production of ſuch a reſult. The meaſure of their iniquities ſeems to have been filled by the maſſacre of the Turkiſh priſoners at Jaffa, in cool blood, three days after their capture; and the plain of Nazareth has been the boundary of Buonaparte's extraordinary career. He raiſed the ſiege of Acre on the 20th May, leaving all his heavy artillery behind him, either buried or thrown into the ſea, where, however, it is viſible, and can eaſily be weighed. The circumſtances which lead to this event, ſubſequent to my laſt diſpatch on the 9th inſtant, are as follow:—Conceiving that the ideas of the Syrians, as to the ſuppoſed irreſiſtible prowels of theſe invaders, muſt be changed, ſince they had witneſſed the checks which the beſieging army daily meet with in their operations before the town of Acre, I wrote a circular letter to the Princes and Chiefs of the Chriſtians of mount Lebanon, and alſo to the Sheiks of the Druſes, recalling them to a ſenſe of their duty, and engaging them to cut off the ſupplies from the French camp. I ſent them at the ſame time, a copy of Buonaparte's impious Proclamation, in which he boaſts of having overthrown all Chriſtian eſtabliſhments, accompanied by a ſuitable exhortation, calling upon them to chooſe between the friendſhip of a Chriſtian knight and that of an unprincipled renegado. This letter had all the effect I could deſire. They immediately ſent me two Ambaſſadors, profeſſing not only friendſhip, but obedience; aſſuring me, that in proof of the latter, they had ſent out parties to arreſt ſuch of the moutaineers as ſhould be found carrying wine and gun-powder to the French camp, and placing eighty priſoners of this deſcription at my diſpoſal. I had thus the ſatisfaction to find Buonaparte's career farther northward effectually ſtopped by a warlike people inhabiting an impenetrable country. General Kleber's diviſion was ſent eaſtward, towards the ford of the Jordan, to oppoſe the Damaſcus army; it was recalled from thence to take its turn in the daily efforts to mount the breach at Acre, in which every other di-

viſion in ſucceſſion had failed, with the loſs of their brave men, and above three-fourths of their officers. It ſeems much was hoped from this diviſion, as it had, by its fierceneſs, and the ſteady front it oppoſed in the form of a hollow ſquare, kept upwards of 10,000 men in check, during a whole day, in the plain between Nazareth and Mount Tabor, till Buonaparte came with his horſe-artillery, and extricated theſe troops, diſperſing the multitude of irregular cavalry, by which they were completely ſurrounded.

The Turkiſh Chifflick Regiment having been cenſured for the ill ſucceſs of their ſally, and their unſteadineſs in the attack of the garden, made a freſh ſally the next night. Soliman Aga, the Lieutenant-Colonel, being determined to retrieve the honour of the regiment by the punctual execution of the orders I had given him to make himſelf maſter of the enemy's third parallel, and this he did moſt effectually; but the impetuoſity of a few carried them on to the ſecond trench where they loſt ſome of their ſtandards, though they ſpiked four guns before their retreat. Kleber's diviſion, inſtead of mounting the breach according to Buonaparte's intention, was thus obliged to ſpend its time and its ſtrength in recovering theſe works, in which it ſucceeded, after a conflict of three hours, leaving every thing in *ſtatu quo*, except the loſs of men, which was very conſiderable on both ſides. After this failure, the French grenadiers abſolutely refuſed to mount the breach any more over the putrid bodies of their unburied companions, ſacrificed in former attacks by Buonaparte's impatience and precipitation, which led him to commit ſuch palpable errors as even ſeamen could take advantage of. He ſeemed to have no principle of action but that of preſſing forward, and appeared to ſtick at nothing to obtain the object of his ambition, although it muſt be evident to every body elſe, that even if he ſucceeded to take the town, the fire of the ſhipping muſt drive him out of it again in a ſhort time; however, the knowledge the garriſon had of the inhuman maſſacre at Jaffa rendered them deſperate in their perſonal defence. Two attempts to aſſaſſinate me in the town having failed, recourſe was had to a moſt flagrant breach of every law of honour and of war. A flag of truce was ſent into the town by the hand of an Arab Dervice, with a letter to the Pacha, propoſing a ceſſation of arms, for the purpoſe of burying the dead bodies, the ſtench became intolerable, and threatened the exiſtence of every one of us on both ſides, many having died delirious within a few hours after being ſeized with the firſt ſymptoms of infection. It was natural that we ſhould gladly liſten to the propoſition, and that we ſhould conſequently be off our guard during the conference. While the anſwer was under conſideration, a volley of ſhot and ſhells on a ſudden announced an aſſault, which, however, the garriſon was ready to receive, and the aſſailants only contributed to increaſe the number of the dead bodies in

queſtion to the eternal diſgrace of the general, who thus diſloyally ſacrificed them. I ſaved the life of the Arab from the effect of the indignation of the Turks, and took him off to the Tigre with me, from whence I ſent him back to the General. with a meſſage, which made the army aſhamed of having been expoſed to ſuch a merited reproof. Subordination was now at an end, and all hopes of ſucceſs had now vaniſhed, the enemy had no alternative left but a precipitate retreat, which was put in execution in the night between the 20th and 21ſt inſt. I have above ſaid, that the battering train of artillery (except the carriages, which were burnt) is now in our hands, amounting to 23 pieces. The howitzers and medium twelve-pounders, originally conveyed by land with much difficulty, and ſucceſsfully employed to make the firſt breach, were embarked in the country veſſels at Jaffa, to be conveyed coaſtwiſe, together with the worſt among the two thouſand wounded, which embarraſſed the march of the army. This operation was to be expected: I took care, therefore, to be between Jaffa and Damietta before the French army could get at the former place. The veſſels being hurried to ſea without ſeamen to navigate them, and the wounded being in want of every neceſſary, even water and proviſions, they ſteered ſtraight to His Majeſty's ſhips, in full confidence of receiving the ſuccours of humanity, in which they were not diſappointed. I have ſent them on to Damietta, where they will receive ſuch farther aid as their ſituation requires, and which it was out of my power to give to ſo many. Their expreſſions of gratitude to us were mingled with execrations on the name of their General, who had, as they ſaid, thus expoſed them to peril rather than fairly and honourably renew the intercourſe with the Engliſh, which he had broken off by a falſe and malicious aſſertion, that I had intentionally expoſed the former priſoners to the infection of the plague. To the honour of the French army be it ſaid, this aſſertion was not believed by them, and it thus recoiled on its author. The intention of it was evidently to do away the effect which the Proclamation of the Porte began to make on the ſoldiers, whoſe eager hands were held above the parapet of their works to receive them when thrown from the breach. He cannot plead miſinformation as his excuſe, his Aid-de-camp, Mr. Laliemand, having had free intercourſe with theſe priſoners on board the Tigre when he came to treat about them; and having been ordered, though too late, not to repeat their expreſſions of contentment at the proſpect of going home. It was evident to both ſides, that when a general had recourſe to ſuch a ſhallow, and, at the ſame time, to ſuch a mean artifice, as a malicious falſehood, all better reſources were at an end, and the diſaffection in his army was conſequently increaſed to the higheſt pitch.

The utmoſt diſorder has been manifeſted in the retreat, and the whole track between Acre and Gaza is ſtrewed with the dead bodies of thoſe who had ſunk under their fatigue, or

the effect of ſlight wounds; ſuch as could walk, unfortunately for them, not having been embarked. The rowing gun-boats annoyed the van column of the retreating army in its march along the beach, and the Arabs haraſſed its rear when it turned inland to avoid their fire. We obſerved the ſmoke of muſquetry behind the ſand hills from the attack of a party of them which came down to our boats, and touched our flag, with every token of union and reſpect. Iſmael Pacha, Governor of Jeruſalem, to whom notice was ſent of Buonaparte's preparation for retreat, having entered this town by land at the ſame time that we brought our guns to bear on it by ſea, a ſtop was put to the maſſacre and pillage already begun by the Naplouſians. The Engliſh flag, re-hoiſted on the conſul's houſe (under which the Pacha met him), ſerves as an aſylum for all religions, and every deſcription of the ſurviving inhabitants. The heaps of unburied Frenchmen lying on the bodies of thoſe whom they maſſacred two months ago, afford another proof of Divine Juſtice, which has cauſed theſe murderers to periſh by the infection ariſing from their own atrocious act. Seven poor wretches are left alive in the hoſpital, where they are protected, and ſhall be taken care of. We have had a moſt dangerous and painful duty in diſembarking here to protect the inhabitants, but it has been effectually done: and Iſmael Pacha deſerves every credit for his humane exertions and cordial co-operation to that effect. Two thouſand cavalry are juſt diſpatched to haraſs the French rear, and I am in hopes to overtake their van in time to profit by their diſorder; but this will depend on the aſſembling of ſufficient force, and on exertions of which I am not abſolutely maſter, though I do my utmoſt to give the neceſſary impulſe, and a right direction. I have every confidence that the officers and men of the three ſhips under my orders, who, in the face of a moſt formidable enemy, have fortified a town that had not a ſingle heavy gun mounted on the land ſide, and who have carried on all intercourſe by boats, under a conſtant fire of muſquetry and grape, will be able efficaciouſly to aſſiſt the army in its future operations. This letter will be delivered to your Lordſhip by Lieutenant Canes, firſt of the Tigre, whom I have judged worthy to command the Theſeus, as captain, ever ſince the death of my much-lamented friend and coadjutor Captain Miller. I have taken Lieutenant England firſt of that ſhip, to my aſſiſtance in the Tigre, by whoſe exertions, and thoſe of Lieutenant Summers, and Mr. Atkinſon, together with the bravery of the reſt of the officers and men, that ſhip was ſaved, though on fire in five places at once, from a depoſit of French ſhells burſting on board her. I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

W. SIDNEY SMITH.

Total of the Engliſh killed, wounded, drowned, and miſſing, during the Siege:
53 Killed—113 Wounded—13 Drowned—82 Priſoners.

Right Hon. Lord Nelſon, Rear-Admiral of the Blue, &c. &c.

LIFE

OF

BUONAPARTE.

FROM the distinguished figure which General Buonaparte has made in European affairs for several years past, and from his being at this time a character on which the eyes of the whole world is turned, a Sketch of his Life cannot fail to be gratifying to the Public, particularly as nothing of the kind has been attempted in this country for two or three years past, and those accounts which have been published hitherto, either dwell altogether on his juvenile years, or, omitting them, recount only those circumstances which have occurred since he became so much a subject of public attention. It is the object of the Present Work to trace him from his earliest years to the present time; and though, from our narrow limits, we cannot be supposed to enter much into detail, yet we hope to give a sufficient outline of his temper and conduct to lead the world to judge of what may be expected from him:

Napoleone Buonaparte was born in Ajaccio, in Corsica, in the year 1769, and is the son of Charles Buonaparte. His father was a zealous friend of General Paoli (who was godfather to this son) and gave him every possible assistance in his struggle to resist the tyrannical efforts of Louis XV. Although a lawyer by profession, he took up arms in the cause of his country, and for his services was rewarded with the office of *Procurature Reale* of Ajaccio.

On the death of his friend, Charles Buonaparte, M. de Marbœuf continued to patronize his family, and placed his second son, Napoleone, the subject of these memoirs, at the *Ecole Militaire*, or Military Academy. The advantages resulting from this seminary, which has produced more great men than any other in Europe, were not lost on young Buonaparte; he there applied himself, with epual assiduity and address, to mathematics, and studied the art of war as a regular science. Born in the midst of a republican struggle in his native land, it was his good fortune to burst into manhood at the moment when the country of his choice called for his services. There was something in his manners and habits that announced him equal to the situation for which he seems to have been destined: instead of imitating the frivolity of the age, his mind was continually occupied by useful studies; and from the Lives of Plutarch, a volume of which

which he always carried in his pocket, he learned, at an early age, to copy the manners, and emulate the actions, of antiquity.

Several characteristic anecdotes, which at once shew the singularity of his habits, and the extent of his genius, at so early a period as while he was in the Military Academy, are related by a schoolfellow of Buonaparte's, and may be relied on as authentic:

"I do not recollect," says he, "that he ever shewed the slightest partiality in favour of any of his comrades: gloomy and fierce to excess almost always by himself, one might say, that, newly issued from a forest, and till then withdrawn from the sight of men, he now began, for the first time, to feel the impressions of surprise and of suspicion. Continually alone, averse likewise to what is called children's plays and amusements, he never was seen to share in the noisy mirth of his school-fellows: very far from that; if sometimes he came among them, it was only to find fault, notwithstanding the known danger to which a boy-pedagogue inevitably exposes himself by reprimanding his young companions, a danger of which his growing courage had early taught him not to be afraid; for, when attacked by a number of school-fellows, whom his offensive raileries had provoked, I have seen him repel, with the utmost *sang froid*, their blows and united efforts. Thus, so young, Buonaparte seemed to disdain to be no more than a child, as if he had already foreseen, that destiny would one day call him to surmount the greatest obstacles.

"Reserved in his temper, and wholly occupied by his own pursuits, Buonaparte courted that solitude which seemed to constitute his delight. He employed, during a long time, some of the hours allowed to recreation, in cultivating as a little garden, that spot which fell to his share, of a considerable portion of ground which was divided among us. After having forced two of his partners to give it up entirely to him, his first care was to render the access to it difficult, by means of a strong palisade; in forming which, he spent all the money which the Count de Marbœuf had sent to him for his little expences. The green arbours, which he planted himself, and cultivated with the utmost pains, rendered his garden at the end of two years, the retreat of a perfect hermit. Woe to the curious, the malicious, or the playful, who dared to trouble his repose! You might see him burst furious from his retreat to repel them, nor was he deterred by the number of assailants. It was in this concealed retirement where the soul of Buonaparte, greedy of glory, insensibly evolved the seed of that noble ambition, feasting on the example of those great men which he was preparing himself to surpass.

"It would have been but little amusement to him if he could not have united utility with pleasure; and, in fact, the plays which he proposed marked strongly his character. The Olympic games of Greece, and those of the Circus of Rome, were the models he proposed for our imitation. Novelty pleases children, particularly those of France. Buonaparte became our leader, and the loss of his title of Captain, of which he had been deprived, from his unsociable behaviour, was soon replaced by that of Director of our Diversions, which was unanimously granted to him. If men, in their pleasures, almost always exceed the limits of true moderation, we may easily suppose that virtue to be still more seldom the lot of young people. Our games became battles; by turns Romans and Carthaginians,

thaginians, Greeks and Persians, we believed ourselves called upon to imitate the enthusiastic fury of those ancient warriors. Stones were our weapons, and often productive of wounds, so that our superiors found themselves obliged to repress our courage. The games were forbidden, and our General severely reprimanded.

" Buonaparte withdrew himself into his favourite garden, resumed his former occupations, and appeared no more among us, till the snow, which covered the ground, and concealed the stones, furnished him with a pretext to open a new campaign. The hostilities became necessarily of another sort, and the modern art of war succeeded to that of the antient. Being seriously occupied by the study of fortification, he wished to put his theory in practice; and soon entrenchments, forts, bastions, and redoubts, were erected of snow, in the great court of the school. We all laboured at these works with an activity and pleasure which can be easily imagined, the young Buonaparte directing our operations. The whole was executed with so much art and exactness, as to excite the curiosity of the people of the town, and even of strangers, who came in crowds, during the winter, to admire our fortifications of snow. As soon as these works were finished, we had no peace till the order of attack and defence were settled. Buonaparte again took the care of directing our motions; and, by turns, at the head of assailants and opponents, he learned betimes, from these useful games, to unite address with courage. Snow-balls were the weapons of both parties, and the wounds they gave not being mortal, our masters saw our diversions without alarm; they even had the good sense to encourage them, by applauding those who distinguished themselves, whether by their courage, or by some new stratagem. Buonaparte, already fertile in expedients, found means to keep up the interest, by devising every day some new manœuvres; but the sun of the month of March disturbed our amusements, and put an end to them till the next winter.

" Notwithstanding the constant exercise and amusements of which I have spoken, and in which Buonaparte took so active a part, I am fully persuaded that his constitution suffered much from long inaction, during his first years at school. A too close application may perhaps retard more than a long continued repose; for, though of a form calculated to resist fatigue, and of much natural strength, he had always the appearance of a weak and delicate health. Although of a middle stature, he is remarkable for the breadth of his shoulders; his eyes, of a deep blue, are small but animated; his hair brown, his forehead large and prominent, his chin sharp, his face long, and his complexion olive: the general expression of is countenance does not strike at first sight, but in observing him with attention, you can readily distinguish the traces of deep thinking; and the vivacity of his looks indicates energy and activity.

" Whenever a pupil had reached the age of fourteen, a custom, (which we kept up with great care,) gave him the privilege to purchase a certain quantity of gun powder for St. Louis's day; and during the fortnight which preceded that solemnity, the young people of that age associated together to prepare fire-works. The indulgence went even so far as to intrust them with some small pieces of artillery, some muskets, and pistols; which were fired to announce the day. What joy! what moments!—perhaps the most happy of their lives.

" Towards nine o'clock in the evening, about twenty of the young people were assembled in the garden which joined to Buonaparte's, where the proprietor had promised a show to his friends. It was a pyramid, composed of different kinds of fire-works, to be played off; unfortunately, he had forgotten to remove a little box, containing several pounds of powder; and the spectators little imagined how dear they were about to pay for their innocent curiosity. We were pressing round the little building, to which he had set fire; and while we were admiring the effect, some unlucky sparks entered the fatal magazine: the explosion was dreadful: some legs and arms broken, two or three faces miserably burned, and some paces of wall thrown down, were the disagreeable consequences of it: but while to save themselves, all those whom the splinters had not reached, broke down the palisades of the neighbouring garden. Buonaparte was seen armed with a pick-axe, pushing back into the fire all those who had burst through his fence; he became enraged on seeing the destruction of his arbour, and the blows which he bestowed on the unhappy fugitives increased the number of the wounded.

" Buonaparte quitted the school of Brienne at the end of the year 1785, M. le Chevalier Renault, then Inspector General, knew how to estimate the merit of that young man, to which he did justice, notwithstanding the bitter complaints of his masters, whom his hard stubborn character had generally rendered unfriendly to him. There was, in that year, a promotion of several of the King's pupils, whom their progress in the studies had rendered worthy to be sent to the Military School of Paris: Buonaparte was of the number, his talents had given him value in the eyes of a gallant officer, who himself owed his preferment and his fortune to his own merit, and to the universal testimony of an irreproachable conduct. On his arrival at Paris, he testified his inclination to serve in the artillery, because this and the engineers were the only corps in France where interest and riches could not so easily usurp the place due to merit. He applied himself, with an unwearied zeal, to the mathematics, which then became his principal study, and was soon in a situation to go through the necessary examinations. He acquitted himself with credit, and was then promoted to the rank of an officer in the regiment *de la Fere*, shortly before the revolution.

" One day walking by a river-side with some young officers, with whom he generally associated, the dispute ran high, and, in a moment of enthusiasm, of which there have been numberless instances in all the wars of opinion, the young people enraged, seized Buonaparte, and were on the point of throwing him headlong into the stream, when a momentary reflection made them perceive the shameful inequality of their number. Buonaparte could not be forced to retract his mode of thinking; the danger which he had run altered not his plan; but he broke off all connection with his companions till the revolutionary spirit having made more progress, induced some of those who had condemned him, to adopt, shortly after, the same opinion."

In 1790, he was elected lieutenant-colonel of a corps of Corsican national guards; and on the second expedition fitted out against Sardinia, he embarked with his countrymen, and landed in the little island of Maddalena, which he took possession of in the name of the French Republic; but finding in the troops that had been got together for this expedition, neither

organization or discipline, he returned to the port of Ajaccio, whence he had set out.

In the mean time, a scheme was formed for the annexion of Corsica to the crown of England; Buonaparte had a difficult part to act on this occasion: he was personally attached to Pasquale Paoli; he resented the treatment he had experienced during the reign of the Terrorists; and had actually drawn up, with his own hand, the remonstrance transmitted by the Municipality of Ajaccio against the decree declaring the General an enemy to the Commonwealth. Indeed, he was supposed to be so intimately connected with him, that a warrant was issued by Lacombe de St. Michel, and the two other Commissioners of the Convention, to arrest young Buonaparte! Notwithstanding this, he was determined to remain faithful to his engagements: and, learning that the English fleet in the Mediterranean had sailed for the purpose of seizing his native island, he embarked, along with his family, for the Continent, and settled within eighteen leagues of Toulon.

That town, the second sea port in France, was at this moment in the possession of the English, having been just seized upon by Admiral Lord Hood, who had substituted the British cross in the place of the three-coloured flag. The military talents of the young Corsican were well known to Salicetti, who introduced him to Barras, (one of the late Directory.) He was accordingly advanced from the rank of *Chef de Brigade*, to that of General of Artillery; and directed, under General Dugomier, the attacks of the various redoubts that surrounded and strengthened this important port, in which Collet d'Herbois soon after declared, "that he had found the galley-slaves alone faithful to the Republic!" It is almost needless to add, that the energy of the French troops, added to the scientific arrangements of the engineers, overcame the zeal and resistance of the garrison, and restored the key of the Mediterranean to France.

It may be necessary, however, to remark, that Buonaparte, in 1793, took an active part against General Paoli and the English; for, in the course of that year, he appeared with a small armament before Ajaccio, the town and citadel of which he summoned in the name of the Republic; but he met with a formidable enemy in his own cousin, the brave Captain Masseria, who commanded a corps of Corsicans during the siege of Gibralter, and had learned the management of red-hot shot under Lord Heathfield.

The conquest of Toulon contributed not a little to raise the credit of Buonaparte; and it proved equally advantageous to his friend Barras. That deputy had been also bred a military man, and was employed by his colleagues on all great emergencies. One of these soon occurred: this was the disturbance among the sections of Paris, known by the name of the Insurrection of Vendemaire. To Buonaparte he confided the superintendance of the army; and it is to the masterly dispositions made by him, that the triumph of the Representative Body is principally ascribed. It is but justice to add, that the moderation displayed on this occasion is, perhaps, unequalled in the history of the civil wars of modern times.

On the eve of engaging the best troops and the most experienced generals in the world, and in a country where nature presents on every side ob-

stacles, which Hannibal alone had been able to overcome, the French troops could have little confidence in the conduct of a General of twenty-six years old; unprovided as they were with magazines, inexperienced till now in the art of war, and in want of clothes, the soldiers did not seem encouraged by the appearance of their new Chief. His exterior not very prepossessing gave occasion to many of their jokes. Buonaparte, far from being alarmed by these obstacles, did not seem at all affected by them. Persuaded that the attachment of soldiers cannot be forced, he sought the only true means of rendering himself worthy of their confidence. The pressing wants of his troops became the first object of his attention; he employed himself unceasingly to supply them, and in a little time, his unremitting activity had provided for every thing. The army in a condition to act offensively, was able very early to estimate the influence of his great talents. Hope elated every heart, and the campaign was hardly open, when the first essays of that ill-organized army were marked by very important successes.

In the spring of the year 1790, we find the Austrio-Sardinian troops defeated within forty miles of Turin; fourteen thousand were either killed or taken prisoners on that occasion, and the cannon and camp equipage seized on by the victors. The army of Lombardy was also doomed to experience a most humiliating defeat, although led on by a cautious veteran, Beaulieu, in person; this was attributed solely to the skilful manœuvres of the commander in chief, seconded by the active exertions of Generals Labarpe, Massena, and Cervoni. The Austrian General Provera was taken prisoner in a third engagement; in consequence of which, forty field-pieces, with the horses, mules, artillery-waggons, &c. were captured by the French; two thousand five hundred of the allies killed, and eight thousand made prisoners. In short, the battles of Millesimo, Dego, Mondovi, Monte Lerino, and Montenotte, were decisive of the fate of Sardinia; for the aged monarch then seated on the throne, found himself reduced to the humiliating situation of relinquishing Savoy and Nice, and subscribing to such terms as were granted by the conqueror, who could have driven him from his throne, and obliged him to spend the short remainder of a wretched life in exile, and perhaps in poverty!

The battle of Lodi, fought on the 21st Floriel (May 10) nearly compleated the overthrow of the Austrian power in Italy, and added greatly to the reputation of the French arms. On this occasion a battalion of grenadiers bore down all before them, and reached the bridge of Lodi, shouting, "Long live the Republic!" but the dreadful fire kept up by the enemy, having stopped their progress, Generals Berthier, Massena, Cervoni, &c. rushed forward; even their presence had proved ineffectual, had it not been for the intrepidity of Buonaparte, who, snatching the standard from the hand of a subaltern, like Cæsar, on a similar occasion, placed himself in front, and animating his soldiers by his actions and gesticulations, for his voice was drowned in the noise of the cannon and musketry, victory once more arranged herself under the Gallic banners.

In consequence of this signal defeat, or rather series of victories, Beaulieu was obliged to yield the palm to a younger rival; for he felt himself reduced to the necessity of retreating among the mountains of Tyrol, on which the French took possession of the greater part of Lombardy, and acquired astonishing resources, and immense magazines.

After

After crossing the Mincio, in the face of the Austrians, the Republican army entered Verona, which so lately had afforded an asylum to one of the two titular kings of France, and seized on Pavia.

At length, Mantua alone remained in possession of the Austrians, and this also was soon invested by the victors, who, at the same time, made inroads into the Tyrol; and, by the battle of Roveredo, and the possession of Trent, became masters of the passes that led to Vienna.

In the mean time, the gallant Wurmser determined to shut himself up with the remainder of his dispirited troops, in Mantua; and the Austrians made one more grand effort, by means of General Alvinzy, to rescue this besieged army, and retain their ancient preponderence in Italy. But the battle of Arcola completely disappointed their expectations, and the capture of Mantua concluded the campaign.

In the winter of 1796, General Buonaparte was united to Madame Beauharnois, a beautiful Frenchwoman, who had experienced a variety of persecutions during the reign of Robespierre. But being protected by Barras, she was preserved from the sanguinary edicts of that tyrant.

The campaign of 1797 opened under the most auspicious circumstances for France: Spain was now in alliance with her; Sardinia acted a subordinate part under her controul; Tuscany obeyed her requisitions; Naples had concluded a separate peace; and Rome was at her mercy. In this situation, the eyes of the court of Vienna, and indeed of all Europe, were turned towards the Archduke Charles, who was said to inherit the military talents of the House of Lorraine. It was accordingly determined, that this young prince should be appointed commander in chief, and that the hero of Kehl should oppose the hero of Italy. But the affairs of Austria were desperate; neither the courage nor genius of the Archduke could retrieve them. Buonaparte appeared invincible; and his glory as a General was complete. But it is not as a General alone, that this young hero has distinguished himself. He aspire, also to the fame of a Statesman and a Legislator, and wields his pen with the same ease and success as his truncheon.

The war seemed at an end. Happy for Europe had it really been so! An Emperor and a Pope and been humbled: two Kings had been subjected; Corsica restored to France; a new and formidable Republic erected in that country, and Europe gazed on the achievements of the young General with astonishment and admiration.

It is not necessary to dwell on the cause of the prospect of peace vanishing; it was attributed by one party to one cause, by the other to a cause directly opposite. It is more to the present purpose, to trace the Hero through his subsequent adventures: he did not remain long inactive; his country called him to conduct an expedition which astonished and perplexed the whole world. Obedient to her summons, we see him embark for Egypt. For what? It is difficult to conjecture: we are told in the ambiguous language of General Berthier, "that it was to strike a blow at the power of England." After having experienced incredible fatigues and privations; surmounted innumerable obstacles; experienced severe disappointments, if not defeats; and lavishing a great portion of the blood of

the

the best soldiers of France, little seems to be done in that quarter towards "striking the great blow at the power of England." The Narrative of the Egyptian Expedition, contained in the dispatches of Buonaparte, Berthier, and Sir Sidney Smith, are the only official particulars, though much at variance, relating to the Life of Buonaparte during his campaign in Egypt; those particulars are given in the dispatches, and it is for the world to decide on their respective claims to veracity.

Causes, which at that time appeared secret, but which late events have tended much to explain, induced him to leave his army in Egypt to the command of General Kleber. He withdrew himself immediately after the re-taking of Aboukir, accompanied by Berthier and several officers of his staff, unknown to the greater part of his army, to whom he addressed dispatches, stating his return to Europe, but with an injunction not to open them till a given time, at which time he was sufficiently distant not to be affected by the manner in which they were received; he arrived in France in October 1799, and was every where received with distinguished marks of national gratitude. He repaired to Paris, where every heart seemed anxious to pay him that tribute of affection which they conceived so justly his due.

On the 7th of November, a grand Fete was given by the Representatives of the People to Buonaparte and Moreau; every thing wore the appearance of harmony; not the most distant idea of misunderstanding seemed to exist. At this national banquet several toasts were given: the President of the Directory, Gohier, gave "Peace;" Buonaparte gave, "The Union of all Frenchmen." The 8th passed, and nothing of importance transpired, On the 9th, the Committee of Inspectors of the Council of Ancients, presented a report, in which they said, alarming symptoms had appeared, and the country was in danger. It was proposed, to remove the sittings of the Legislature to St. Cloud, and to entrust the safety of the National Representatives to General Buonaparte, which propositions were immediately adopted.

On the 10th, both Councils met at St. Cloud. The Council of Five Hundred presented a very agitated scene:—The sitting opened with a motion for a Report upon the State of the Republic. Without entering into a discussion of this motion, it was proposed, that all the members should take an oath of fidelity to the constitution. The proposition was received with loud plaudits, interrupted by frequent exclamations of "Down with the Dictators!" After each member had taken the oath, the Council passed a declaration, that they were constituted to the number of a majority required by the Constitution. A letter from Barras was then read, giving in his resignation. While the Council were deliberating, Buonaparte, accompanied by 20 grenadiers, entered the Hall, and walked up towards the President, his brother. Several of the members immediately darted towards him and pushed him back. Some proposed to out-law him. One member, Arena, his countryman, attempted to stab him. The blow, however, was warded off by a grenadier, who received it in his arm. Buonaparte then drew back, ordered the grenadiers to withdraw, and left the Hall himself. His conduct was then vehemently reprobated; his appointment of General of the Legislative guard was proposed to be annulled, and the Council of Ancients was accused of having violated the Constitution. The President interrupted this debate by quitting the President's

dent's chair and throwing off his scarf. The doors were immediately opened, and a file of grenadiers entered and took away Lucien Buonaparte. A strong detachment of soldiers followed, and an officer ordered the Hall to be cleared in General Buonaparte's name. This order was immediately carried into execution. Meanwhile the Council of Ancients resolved, in a Secret Committee, to abolish the Directory, and to appoint a Legislative Commission of twenty-five members, and an Executive Commission of three members, who were charged to procure a solid and honourable peace. In the evening they appointed the persons to fill these Commissions, and then adjourned to the 20th of February. The remains of the Council of Five hundred also met in the evening, and having passed a decree similar to the Council of Ancients, adjourned also to the 20th of February. The three members of the Executive Commission are Buonaparte, Sieyes, and Roger Ducos.

From the breaking out of the Revolution in 1789, to the 10th of November, 1799, Buonaparte had not appeared to take any particular part in the various revolutions which had occurred in France. Altogether intent upon the duties of his military station, he seemed to look upon the success or ruin of the different factions in Paris, with indifference. Now we behold him acting a new and important part: entering one of the Councils with an armed force, and, like another Cromwell, dissolving it in his own name. This business dispatched, we find him addressing the soldiers on the abuses of the late Government, and on the propriety of the steps he had taken. The soldiers repeat their assurances of attachment, and Buonaparte, confident in their friendship, proceeds to organize a new government; and himself becomes one of the heads of that government. Several steps were then taken to remove all doubts from the minds of the citizens, and to preserve tranquillity. Confidential messengers were sent to the armies to apprize them of the new order of things. Buonaparte and his party, like all their revolutionary predecessors, have not been sparing in their professions; their motives, they declare to be pure, and only influenced by a zeal for the public weal. But it must be confessed, that the manner in which the Councils were dissolved or suspended, and their taking the reins of government in their own hands, make the purity of their intentions doubtful. Yet the moderation they have displayed, and the measures which have been taken to conciliate the affections of the nation, present an obvious contrast betwixt this and former revolutions; many of which have been strongly marked by gross violations of every law divine and human.

Buonaparte in the whole of this affair has displayed that energy and ability for which he has been so much famed. What the result may be to bleeding Europe; whether it will be a means of stemming the torrent of blood, or laying the foundation for further destruction, is a question which cannot at present be determined. Should peace be the issue, the impropriety of the means by which the Party obtained their power, will be forgotten in the blessings of the end; and will stamp the name of Buonaparte with deserved immortality.

ANECDOTES

OF

SIEYES.

EVERY thing which tends to exhibit the character of a man, who makes a distinguished figure at the present momentous crisis, cannot fail to gratify. The reasons which induced us to present the reader with the Life of Buonaparte, has led us to give the following Biographical Anecdotes of Abbey Sieyes—Anecdotes we can only call them, as we do not affect to offer a complete Life. The information contained is furnished by a person who has resided in France, and is extracted chiefly from a Publication, the authenticity of which is indisputable.

Sieyes was born at Frejus, in the eastern part of Provence, in the year 1748. He was gradually, a Clergyman, Vicar General, a Canon, and Chancellor of the Church of Chartres; and lastly, had the permanent administrative employment in Paris of Counsellor Commissary, nominated by the Diocese of Chartres to the superior Clergy of France. He was esteemed a learned Civilian, and Canonist, and possessed a considerable share of knowledge in the Belles-Lettres; his favourite studies, however, were politics, metaphysics, and œconomics. He spent the greatest part of his time in Paris, where he associated with D'Alembert, Diderot, Condorcet, &c. He was a member of the Economical Society, which held its sittings in the Hotel of the *Chancellier Seguier*.

Notwithstanding his excellent qualifications and connexions, it is probable that Sieyes would have remained in obscurity through life, if the Revolution had not brought him into a situation to display his talents. Being appointed a Deputy to the States General, he began his career by the publication of a judicious Work, entitled, "*What is the Tiers Etat?*" This work became, at the time, the most fashionable book in Paris.

After the meeting of the *Tiers Etat* at Versailles, he was the person who proposed, that they should call themselves "*The Assembly of the Representatives of the French People*," and he supported his project with considerable ability.

When the misunderstanding between the orders in the States General assumed a serious aspect; great numbers of troops were drawn about the capital,

capital, and the Deputies in the popular interest had reason to be apprehensive for their safety. Sieyes, who, in the sitting of the 8th of July, stated to the assembly, that no troops should be allowed to approach nearer than ten leagues to the place in which the States General were sitting; he proposed an address to the King, desiring that he would order the troops to withdraw from the neighbourhood of Versailles.

Sometime previously to the month of October, when the King was attacked in his palace by the mob, a secret committee, consisting of the Duke of Orleans, Mirabeau, La Clos, and the Abbe Sieyes, was formed in a village near Paris. They had agreed upon a scheme for placing the Duke of Orleans in so distinguished a situation in the government, that he could not fail to have the command of the populace, and consequently possess a decisive weight in the National Assembly. This fact shews how far Sieyes came under the denomination of an *Orleanist*. He was then a zealous royalist. In the year 1791, when it was thought that the King, by attempting his escape, had abdicated the crown, a combination was formed, consisting of Condorset and Brissot in France, and of Paine in England, for the publication of a periodical paper under the title of *The Republican*. Sieyes actually published some answers to papers which appeared in this publication, and declared his intentions to support a *Monarchy against a Republic* by every means in his power! It is not known whether the succeeding events of the Revolution, or what stronger reasons have since operated to render him so strenuous a proselyte to the Republican system.

Sieyes was the author of the declaration of *The rights of man*, which was decreed by the National Assembly. It was written in his usual metaphysical manner, and excited very different sensations in every country of Europe. In 1792 Sieyes was appointed a member of the National Convention. When the Convention voted the punishment of Louis, such was the influence of Sieyes, that a great number of members reserved themselves till they had heard his opinion. It was consequently understood, upon that opinion would depend the fate of the King.—Sieyes at length mounted the tribune, an awful silence pervaded the anxious assembly; he, however, interrupted the solemn pause with only five words, "*Je suis pour la mort!*" (I am for death) and instantly withdrew.

From this time he was so far concealed from the public eye, that it was actually made a question whether he was dead or alive. It has, however, been thought by the Parisians, that he directed, from his philosophical den, many of the atrocities which were committed under the reign of Robespierre. From the death of this tyrant till February, 1795, he still remained behind the curtain, and did not appear upon the stage until he was certain there was no danger of the Mountaineers regaining their ascendancy. In order to make his apology for having thus absented himself from business during two years, he published memoirs of his own life, the substance of which publication was to lament that the Mountain Party had abused his definitions of the rights of man; and to state that his system had been intended only as the skeleton of civil society.

From this period began the most brilliant career of Sieyes's public life. Having obtained the esteem and confidence of his colleagues, he was fixed upon to regulate the external relations of the Republic. He it was who

suggested the scheme of concluding separate treaties with the coalesced powers, with the view to create such a misunderstanding as would prove fatal to the royal confederacy. The subsequent conduct of the European cabinets appeared for a time to evince that Sieyes was right in his conjectures, and proved, that a Vicar of Chartres had out-witted all the experienced Statesmen in Europe.

The plans of Sieyes, for the aggrandizement of the French Republic, were developed in April, 1795. He advised his colleagues to retain the Austrian Netherlands, and was the first projector of the alliance with Holland. He, himself, went to the Hague as French Plenipotentiary, for the purpose of concluding that famous treaty.—Those who did not comprehend the designs of Sieyes, highly disapproved of a treaty with a petty power, not geographically united to France, and whose democratic constitution had not been acknowledged by the King of Prussia, brother-in-law to the *ci devant* Stadtholder. Even the greater part of his colleagues in the Committee of Public Safety were of opinion, that the Netherlands should be restored to Austria; and as late as the month of August in that year, Boissy d'Anglas gave his opinion in the Committee, that the Emperor would rather endanger his crown than relinquish those important possessions.

So signal were the services thus performed by Sieyes to his country, that at the time of the adoption of the new constitution, he was elected one of the five members of the Executive Directory, which he declined. In February, 1796, he was appointed a member of the National Institute, in the class of metaphysics and morals; and, by an unaccountable singularity of choice, the very same man who had declined a place in the Directory, accepted of a chair of Literature in the central school at the *College de Mazarin!*

It was reported in May 1796, that Sieyes was the author of the peace between the French Republic and the King of Sardinia. This report is highly probable, because he continued to direct the external policy of the Directory, nearly in the same manner as he formerly directed that of the Committee of Public Safety. A treaty so disgraceful to an independent Sovereign, could scarcely have been wished for, even by the most inveterate Jacobins.

In the spring of 1797, he very narrowly escaped assassination with a pistol, by the Abbe Poulle. During the latter part of that year, he was abused by such a number of lampoons and pasquinades, that he was obliged to quit Paris upon the entrance of the new third into the Legislature; and did not dare to come out of his retreats, till the violent crisis of the 4th of September; he then became one of the most active members of the Legislature. After this he was appointed Ambassador to the Court of Berlin, where he rendered essential service to the Republic, by his successful exertions to preserve the friendship of the King of Prussia; a steadiness of friendship, which neither the gold nor threats of the Allies have been capable of shaking. It has been supposed, and with tolerable confidence, that the King of Prussia was not unacquainted with the projects of Sieyes in regard to the late Revolution in France; certain it is, that a very extraordinary and marked respect was paid to this Ambassador, during the time of his residence in Prussia; and when he returned to France, the

King not only attended him in person to the frontiers of his territory, but presented him with his portrait set in gold, and richly adorned with diamonds.

On Sieyes's return to France, he was elected one of the Directory, where his influence was unbounded; he gave motion to the wheels of government. Thus situated, he found little difficulty in obtaining means to effect the late Revolution. He seems to have had sufficient influence not only in the Directory, but the Councils, to carry almost any measure he chose. This influence he no doubt turned to the accomplishment of his designs, without, at that time, being suspected of any intentions inimical to the Constitution, which we now see it was his fixed determination to destroy.

We have already, in the Life of Buonaparte, shewn the nature of the measures taken to accomplish this end, and have only to observe, that they appear not to have been very scrupulous in the choice of the means by which their views were to be carried into effect. Time must develope their consequences, which at present can scarcely be speculated upon.

Sieyes does not, at any time, appear to have possessed the affections of the French people; reserved and ambitious, they have always viewed him with jealousy. The assistance of a man possessed of Buonaparte's popularity seemed absolutely necessary to the success of his projects; this assistance he had sufficient address to obtain, and by it has had the satisfaction to see his views completely accomplished. The assistance derived from the interest or talents of

ROGER DUCOS,

seems not to have been considerable; he had not, prior to the late Revolution, made any material figure in French affairs. We know little of him but his name: what were the reasons which induced Buonaparte and Sieyes to pitch upon him as a principal character in their revolutionary drama, seems not to be perfectly known. But they had, no doubt, views to accomplish, which he was thought a proper person to effect. Indeed, it appears, the French Councils had no contemptible opinion of Ducos's abilities, by electing him Director. While in that situation, it is probable, the intimacy between Sieyes and Ducos was cultivated. We have mentioned the latter chiefly to observe, that he is understood to be friendly to the object for which all Europe ardently pants, and, as it gives us a hope, that he will exert his power and influence to obtain a speedy and permanent Peace.

FINIS.

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